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AARON LÓPEZ OF NEWPORT.  
1731-1782.

One of the Foremost Merchants of New England Prior to the American Revolution.

PUBLICATIONS  
OF THE  
AMERICAN  
JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
NUMBER 27

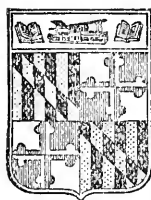


THE LYONS COLLECTION VOLUME II

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## THE LYONS COLLECTION.

Presented to the American Jewish Historical Society by  
the Family of the late Reverend Jacques Judah Lyons as a

MEMORIAL

### VOLUME II

Containing transcripts and summaries of the manuscripts  
embraced in the Collection, as well as the most important material  
selected from the note books and scrap books of the  
late Rev. J. J. Lyons.





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## OBJECTS.

The object of this Society is to collect and publish material bearing upon the history of America, and to promote the study of Jewish history in general, preferably so far as the same is related to American Jewish history or connected with the causes of emigration from various parts of the world to this continent. It is known that Jews in Spain and Portugal lent no inconsiderable aid to the voyages that led to the discovery of America, that a few accompanied the earliest discoverers and that Jews were among the first settlers on this continent, and in its adjacent islands. Considerable numbers saw service in the Colonial and Revolutionary wars, some of them with great distinction. Others contributed liberally to the Continental treasury, at critical periods, to aid in the establishment of Independence. Since the foundation of our government, Jews have played an active part in the political affairs of the country, and have been called upon to hold important public positions. The records of the achievements of these men will, when gathered together, prove of value and interest to the historian, and perchance cast light upon some obscure parts of the history of our country.



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## PREFACE.

The first volume of this interesting and important collection was issued as No. 21 of the *Publications of the American Jewish Historical Society*, and contains the earliest extant minute books of the Spanish and Portuguese Congregation of New York, a sketch of the congregation written by Mr. Naphtali Phillips and the address of Major Mordecai M. Noah, delivered in 1825.

The present volume, however, presents the real work of the Rev. J. J. Lyons, for it contains the result of his indefatigable industry in collecting material on American Jewish history. In order to obtain data, Mr. Lyons in the course of many years examined thousands of volumes on American local history, entering his finds in a number of note books, in addition to which he collected original documents wherever available as well as rare pamphlets and newspaper clippings.

As stated in the introduction to the first volume, the result of these labors remained hidden from the world for many years, so that a very large portion of his sources was discovered independently by other workers in the same field, and had been published in our *Publications* before the work of Mr. Lyons was placed within the reach of scholars by the generous gift of his children. Despite this fact, however, there still remained so much material, part of which is entirely new, while the rest is valuable as amplifying material already published, that the present volume will be found to be a useful source book for workers in this field.

In fairness to the earlier researches made by Mr. Lyons, the editors have calendared his references and notes as to material discovered and published independently as above stated.

The present volume naturally divides itself into two parts: the first, containing the original manuscripts collected by Mr. Lyons, and the second, his own notes, together with selections from his scrap books and a list of fifty-eight pamphlets bearing on the subject matter, and likewise forming part, of the collection.

While Mr. Lyons ultimately intended to put this large amount of material into shape, with a view of presenting the story of the Jew on the American continent as a consecutive narrative, his notes were necessarily jotted down whenever he came upon some new item, and the manuscript and scrap book material was likewise but loosely arranged.

The first important work of the committee was, therefore, to group this large amount of material under appropriate headings, so as to bring together as far as possible everything bearing on the same topic. It was also found advisable to keep the manuscript material distinct from the rest, both for scientific work in the future as well as in justice to the memory of Mr. Lyons.

The material grouped under the various headings required re-arrangement in turn, so as to present a consecutive narrative as far as possible; and for this purpose, both manuscripts and notes have been presented in chronological order under their respective subdivisions.

As the collection is really to form a source book from which historical material may be gathered, it was deemed best to cross-reference many of the items to the *Publications of the American Jewish Historical Society*, with a view of referring the student to additional material on the same subject, as well as for correcting or explaining data in the light of later research. In many instances, too, notes of an explanatory character were required so as to make the bearing of the material more intelligible to the reader.

The manuscript portion of the collection is naturally of considerable importance; particularly as a number of the documents furnish fuller information regarding the early history

of the New York congregation than do its minute books. Thus, we frequently get more complete lists of names, while the quaintness of the contemporary correspondence, as well as the formal resolutions of a bygone age, furnishes an atmosphere indispensable to the historian in order to enable him to tell his story adequately.

In order to give future investigators the opportunity of examining these original documents, or of referring to Mr. Lyons' original notes, the editors have adopted the plan of retaining the numbers of the manuscripts as originally presented, so that, while the manuscripts have been entirely rearranged, the original number of each appears herein at the foot of every transcript. By this means the original may readily be examined at the rooms of the Society. The same plan has also been adopted with regard to the notes, so that, following each note, there appears the number of the particular volume and page of the original entry where the item may be found.

Many of these manuscript items are of very great interest. Thus in one contemporary document, written about the middle of the eighteenth century, we note with what a jealous eye the Portuguese element in the congregation guarded its prerogatives against the continually increasing membership from every part of the world, particularly from Germany. From other documents we learn of the constant appeals made to the New York congregation throughout the eighteenth century by the Jewish communities of Curaçao, Jamaica and other American settlements, urging it to take particular precautions in shipping kosher meat to those ports, and suggesting most stringent regulations as to branding such meat, as well as instructions with regard to the qualifications of the inspectors.

Other documents show the constant reliance of the New York congregation upon the advice of the Sephardic congregation at London, to which were constantly referred all kinds of ritual questions as well as requests for the selection of proper spiritual officials.

Several letters and appeals throughout the eighteenth century are communications from the Holy Land, not a few from Hebron, Smyrna and Constantinople.

Other documents disclose the various congregations then existing in America, some little known heretofore, as for instance one at Reading, Pennsylvania, as early as 1761. They also evidence the presence of Jews in practically every one of the thirteen colonies prior to the American Revolution.

The constant correspondence and official documents relating to the schools established by the New York congregation emphasize the traditional anxiety of the Jew to give his children the best possible education; and what is more remarkable, without distinction for boys and girls alike. In this connection it may be of interest to quote from an official letter written about 1760 to the congregation at Jamaica, requesting the latter to recommend

a suitable master capable to teach our children ye Hebrew language. English and Spanish he ought to know, but he will not suit unless he understand Hebrew and English at Least.—He must oblige himself to keep a public school at the usual hours of the forenoon on every customary day. Children whose parents are in needy circumstances he must teach gratis. His salary shall be first at £40 New York money per year—and all other children he teaches, must and will pay him as has been done heretofore.

As above stated, such schools appear to have been maintained for boys and girls alike, while the congregation had a regular school committee to watch over them constantly.

Perhaps the most interesting items among the manuscripts in this collection are those relating to the American Revolution, as well as the original correspondence between the congregations of New York, Newport and Philadelphia, shortly after Washington's inauguration, relating to a joint address of congratulation. The various congregations, however, finally sent separate addresses, to all of which Washington cordially replied at length.

Here, too, we find the original "Order of Service for a Day of Humiliation and Prayer recommended by Congress, May,

1776." This was before the Declaration of Independence and it contains a prayer to Heaven to adjust the differences between the colonies and the mother country. Here is also found an original manuscript prayer written during the Revolution by Rev. Gershom Mendes Seixas, imploring the blessing of Heaven on the President and Delegates in Congress, and George Washington, Captain General and Commander-in-Chief.

To this group, too, belongs the original draft of the address presented to Governor George Clinton immediately after the evacuation of New York by the British, which contains the following:

Though the society we belong to is but small, when compared with other religious societies, yet we flatter ourselves that none has manifested a more zealous attachment to the sacred cause of America in the late war with Great Britain.

Another item in this connection is the address of gratitude to Governor Clinton, prepared by Rev. Gershom Mendes Seixas, upon the return of the congregation, which had left the City of New York practically in a body on the advent of the British. Still another is a Hebrew prayer on behalf of "Governor Clinton and George Washington our Commanding General," as well as the order of service at the New York Synagogue in connection with the adoption of the Federal Constitution.

The various inventories and account books, the record books of marriages, births, etc., as well as family records and Bible entries herein detailed, furnish lists of many new names, invaluable for genealogical purposes, showing as well how Jews from distant parts of the world found their way to various parts of America, long before the nineteenth century. In this connection mention may be made that the leading school of the New York congregation, which is still maintained, was founded in 1802 by Myer Polonies, a Polish Jew.

Several of the manuscript items relate to matters of charity from the earliest period down to 1847. A document of the

latter year shows that the New York congregation called a special meeting for the collection of relief funds for the famishing people of Ireland.

As already stated, the second half of the present volume contains the extracts from the note books of the Rev. Mr. Lyons, which have been grouped under twenty-three distinct headings, so that notes relating to the same subject have been brought together, no matter how they were jotted down in the original. These have been arranged in chronological order, while the volume and page of the particular note book where the entry appeared, have been preserved in each instance, so that it may readily be found and examined. This is particularly important, as many of the entries were necessarily summarized or calendared, for the reason given above.

The various items have been grouped under special headings. The first group embraces those relating to the congregation of New York; this is followed by items relating to its minutes, its cemeteries, the families of Gomez, Hays, Levy, Moses, Seixas, Simson and Solomons. The latter items are for the most part extracts from diaries, family Bibles, and similar sources. Many of these entries, particularly those taken from diaries and account books, are especially valuable as showing the early commercial activities of the Jews, and also because they contain accounts of contemporary events of unusual interest, such as the visit of Lafayette.

The groups above mentioned are followed by items relating to Newport, its synagogue and cemetery, Masonry in Newport, and to the Touro and Gould families. The Gould family, while not Jewish, was in constant and intimate relations with the Jews of that city. These items in turn are followed by entries relating to Philadelphia and to Haym Salomon, the well known financier, who rendered important service to the American cause during the Revolution.

The rest of this volume relates to the activities of Jews in the Wars of the United States, to Jews in South America and the West Indies, concluding with excerpts from scrap books

of newspaper clippings collected by Mr. Lyons, and with a list of pamphlets relating to Jewish history generally.

Considering the fact that this volume contains mainly new material covering almost 250 pages, and keeping in mind that the great majority of Mr. Lyons' notes were merely calendared because the same data had been brought to light independently since his death, we get some idea of the tremendous industry of the collector in whose memory the work is published.

A word must be added concerning the illustrations. These have been reproduced from photographs of paintings obtained by Mr. Lyons many years ago, which, in all likelihood, it would be impossible even to locate at the present time. In this connection the thanks of the committee are due to Miss Rachel Gratz Nathan for permission to reproduce the portrait of her ancestor Isaac Moses, from a painting by Gilbert Stuart in her possession.

In editing the present work the labors of the chairman have been greatly lightened by the assistance of the members of the committee, the untiring coöperation of Mr. Samuel Oppenheim and the advice of Dr. Cyrus Adler, President of the Society. We are also indebted to Mrs. Florence Z. Yuells for translating several Spanish and Portuguese documents; to Mr. Albert M. Friedenberg, chairman of the Publication Committee of the Society, in connection with publication; to Miss Elfrida Cowen for the preparation of the index; and to Rev. Dr. H. Pereira Mendes in supplying the glossary.

LEON HUHNER, *Chairman.*

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N. TAYLOR PHILLIPS,  
DAVID DE SOLA POOL,  
LEON HUHNER, *Chairman.*

### NOTE.

Throughout this work all Hebrew words in the text have been transliterated into English characters, and the use of Hebrew in the original has been indicated by employing italics followed by an asterisk. The translation of Hebrew and foreign words and phrases will be found in the glossary at p. 525 *et seq.*, of the present volume.

All matter prepared by the editors, including foot-notes and summaries, appears in brackets throughout.

For further details concerning names and items appearing in this work, the reader is referred to "The Jewish Encyclopedia" and the volumes of the *Publications of the American Jewish Historical Society*.



## PART I. MANUSCRIPTS.

### ITEMS RELATING TO CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL, NEW YORK.

5489 [1728]. Subscription list for building 1st Mill Street Synagogue. [The list of contributors and the amounts of their contributions appear in the Minute Book of the Congregation published in *Publications*, No. 21, pp. 10, 11, 17, 19-21. There are a few variations in the above MS. from the list there published. The following names not given in the Minute Book are given here because this seems to be the original manuscript list: N. Da Costa,<sup>1</sup> Philip Isaac, Solomon Myers,<sup>2</sup> M<sup>e</sup> Naftaly, R. Pacheco and R. Wolf.]

[The manuscript then continues:]

Kahal Kados. Sheerit Israel. 15 Heshvan @ 5489—  
[October 18, 1728]

the above Gen<sup>tl</sup> have Ingagd the payment of the Sums above mention<sup>d</sup>. asses<sup>t</sup>. to there names for the use of Buying a pcess of Land to Buld a senagoga. the one half thereof to be paid as Soon as the Land be purchased, the other half to be paid, when the Said Bulding Shall goe forwd, and for the managm<sup>t</sup> of the whole it Being agreed that Moses Gomez Benjamin Mendez Pacheco Jacob franks and Mordecay Gomez Shall Cary on Said works. To whom Said moneys Shall Be paid, and Said Gen<sup>tl</sup> Shall be obliged to give a Trew Acct. of the Disbusm<sup>t</sup>. of Said works, as alsoe to Give a Bond unto Daniell Gomez Abm Isaacs & Nath<sup>a</sup> Levy In Behalf of

---

<sup>1</sup> [A Daniel Nunes Da Costa is mentioned in the list in No. 21 referred to above.]

<sup>2</sup> [Probably identical with Selonoe Bar Meyr mentioned in the list in No. 21 referred to above.]

them Selves & the whole Congregation in the penall sume of one thousand pounds. that the Same Land & Bulding is for the use of whole Congregation, and Shall not make any Sale to any other person which Bond Shall Bee Recorded, in the office of Town Clerk as Likewise the Deeds it is alsoe agreed that Moses Gomez shall Enter into Bond of £500 to the said three Gen<sup>t</sup> mention, that the purchass of the Buring place is for the sole use of the whole Congregation, and that he shall not make sale of the same to any other person.

[No. 78] <sup>1</sup>

Memoranda concerning deed to Burying Ground, 1728, and of other Congregational Deeds of Shearith Israel.

[No. 186]

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Illustrious Gentlemen—The Parnassim, Adjuntos and other gentlemen of the Mahamad of the Holy K. K. of the Island of Jamaica, which the Almighty may increase and prosper for many years, Amen.

Most Benevolent Gentlmen:

We the undersigned appointed Parnassim and Adjuntos of this holy K. K. of Shearith Jacob [*sic*] for the present year 5489 [1728-9], place before you this petition in the name of all the holy Kaal.

We earnestly request you all as well as your Haham to communicate it to the members of your holy Kaal, so that they may contribute all they can to the building of a holy synagogue which we have decided with the help of God to erect. We have already purchased an appropriate site for the edifice and another for a cemetery, but for want of sufficient means, the Yehudim here being but few, we have not

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<sup>1</sup> [The numbers at the foot of each manuscript refer to the numbering on the original document which may be found in the archives of the Society.]

been able to carry out our intention, and until our hopes are realized, we must continue for the present to congregate in a Synagogue rented from a Goy.

May the Almighty grant our wish, and may He move your hearts that you may to the best of your ability assist us in the matter, and also help us to build a fence around the cemetery. And we will ever pray that you may prosper and increase in holy service. Amen

From your servants and the assistants above-mentioned

LUIS GOMEZ,<sup>1</sup> Parnas

DANIEL GOMEZ

N. Y. 16 Sebeth 5489 [January 16, 1729]

[This manuscript is in Spanish.]

[No. 86]

Draft of Letter to Rodriques Pacheco and Daniel Gomez,  
sending funds to Synagogue. [Probably 1729.]

Curaçao

Mess<sup>rs</sup>—Rodriques Pacheco & Daniel Gomez,

Gentlemen/

I find my Selfe favour'd with your most Esteemed of the 23<sup>th</sup> 8<sup>bre</sup> and I give God thanks for having Condused the 260 p<sup>s</sup> 8/8 In Safety which I remited for the Building of the Holy House You have in hand, the Same I hope may happen with the 5 marks I remited Last Which amounts to £48<sup>''</sup>6—and as It is for Such a great presept, God will prosper, that you may Injoy it many years with peace Unitty and all manner of felesity

Now I must tell you that the Members of this Holy Congregation Whom devoutly Contributed to Wards this Benefaction, as the Know that the (asquenazum) or Germans, are more in Number than Wee there, the desire of you not to

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<sup>1</sup> [See Index volume of the *Publications of the American Jewish Historical Society*, as well as index to No. 21, and that at the end of this volume, for other references to the Gomez family.]

Consent not Withstanding they are the most, to Let them have any More Votes nor Authority then they have had hitherto and for the performance of Which you are to get them to Signe and agreement of the Same by all of them, and that one Copy of the Sayd agreement Remain in the Hands of the Treasurer of your Congration another in the Hands of Mr. Luis Gomez as the Eldest Member, and another to be Sent to me for the Treasurer of this Congregation to Keep in his Books, and as this request is funded In Solesiting the Peace and Unety of that Holy Congragation I hope that you as Well as the Asquinazim, Whom all I wish God may bless, Will Comply With this my Petition, for our devines tells us that the foundation of the Begist Blesing that God found to Bless his dear people was Peace (as it is written) God Bless his People With peace With Which he may Bless and Keep you many years—according to his power—and I Wish you &c.

[See in this connection *Publications*, No. 21, p. 20. The original of this letter was probably written in Portuguese by the Haham, Raphael Jeshurun, of Curaçao. The document in this Collection is unsigned and in all likelihood is a contemporary English translation from the Portuguese original. See also Joseph M. Corcos, "A Synopsis of the History of the Jews of Curaçao," Curaçao, 1897, pp. 21, 22: "In the year 1720 [1729] a letter was received from the congregation 'Shearith Jacob' now 'Shearith Israel' of New York, dated 3<sup>rd</sup> of Shebat 5489 and signed by Moses Gomez, President, Benjamin Mendez Pachuo Jr [Pacheco] and Daniel Gomez in which they said knowing that the Jews of Curaçao are always noted for their willingness to render assistance to their brethren, and particularly in sacred causes, they appealed to them in the name of the community to contribute towards the fabrication of their Synagogue, the site of which was already purchased."]

(1730) 5490 Receipt of Jacob Franks for silver from Curaçao towards building Synagogue in New York, and signed acknowledgment on behalf of the Congregation. MSS. in duplicate, Spanish and English; Spanish not copied; the English is as follows:<sup>1</sup>

I acknowledge to have Receivd on ye 7<sup>th</sup> of Octobr last past by the hand of Mess<sup>rs</sup> Moses Gomez & Rodrigo Pacheco two hundred twenty Nine Ounces, and three Eaighites of Silver as Also Likewise Receivd of said Gentelmen on the 24<sup>th</sup> feb<sup>y</sup>. forty three Ounces, and one Eight of silver Which two sums together are applyd for and toward the building of a Sinagoga in this place of which Signed tow receipts of this date.

NEW YORK a 9 de Nisan 5490 [March 27, 1730]

[The Spanish duplicate of the above is signed by Jacob Franks.]

We under writen Jehidim of this K. K. of Seeritt Israel doe declaire that Jacob frankes as treasurer, has Credet<sup>d</sup>, in the acc<sup>t</sup> of the Cost and expence of the buiolding of a Sinagoga the sums above said and that Mess. Moses Gomez & Rodrigo Pacheco did deliver Itt, in y<sup>e</sup> name and as Voluntary Contribution of the gentelmen Jehedim of the K. K. of Curaça as p<sup>r</sup> Letters and directions of y<sup>e</sup> H. Raphael Jesurun

NEW YORK a 9 de Nisan 5490 [March 27, 1730].

DAN<sup>LL</sup> GOMEZ

RODRIGO PACHECO

[The Spanish duplicate of this last receipt is signed by

MORD<sup>y</sup> GOMEZ

D<sup>VD</sup> LOPEZ]

[No. 63]

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<sup>1</sup> [See *Publications*, No. 21.]

[5498, (1738), New York.<sup>1</sup> Blank form of *Ketubah* in Hebrew and Spanish, with full directions to the minister how to fill it up in various cases.]

[No. 105]

[1739-1745, Account of Isaac & Abraham DePeyster to Estate of Miguel Pacheco Da Silva. Mentions Messrs. Pacheco, Mendez Seixas, Rodrigo Pacheco, Isaac Mendez, and Is. Rapl. Rodrigues. Account amounts to £3152.

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Account of Isaac and Abm. dePeyster against Isaac Seixas and other papers. Many of these are copied in Book IV., pp. 298 *et seq.* [See *infra*, p. 350.] One not there copied is an account against Isaac Seixas, running from Nov. 5, 1746 to 1749 for flour, aggregating £1022.18. 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ , against which payments are credited, leaving balance of £1074.18. 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; draft to Pacheco and Seixas for £853 is also credited, leaving £219.18. 8 $\frac{3}{4}$  due Oct. 24, 1750.]

[No 14]

[June 1, 1752. Promissory Note of Joshua Mendez to K. K. S. I. for £4.10.]

[No. 134]

The Honorable, the Parnassim, Gabay and Adjunta of K. K. Seherit Israel.

Gentlemen:

I hope you are enjoying the good health I wish you, and I am ever ready on all occasions to use the good health I enjoy in your service.

I desire to inform you that in accordance with your request to the gentlemen of the Mahamad of this Kehila, I have made

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<sup>1</sup> [Part of the date and place are torn.]

an announcement that the meats which come from your place without the certificate of the Hazan and without your prescribed brand, shall be considered as prohibited.

Experience has shown, however, that we haven't yet hit upon the proper remedy; for many casks of meat have been sold bearing the above-mentioned brand but without being accompanied by the certificate of said Hazan. Having been commissioned to look into the case, with all the care due a matter of such importance, the only thing I have been able to ascertain from some Jews from your place who have sold said meat, is that your Hazan neither sees the meat nor knows whether it has been properly or improperly killed, and that your Somer, in order to have it passed, or for his own profit, pretends that said Hazan has duly signed the certificates. As it is certain that they have a certificate, the result is that they take a certificate for ten casks and ship fifty. When I inquired how the Hazan could brand so many casks and yet give the Semaha for only so few, the answer was that the Hazan neither brands nor sees them, and that whoever ships meat, simply goes to the Hazan's house for the brander and puts the brands on himself in his own house as suits his convenience.

Therefore, gentlemen, it seems to me that your Hazan ought not to entrust the brander to anyone, but should require that all meats be branded in his own presence. Only in this way can fraud be prevented. The same method should be employed in all shipments of meat, fat, &c. The Hazan should also write out and send me a list of the casks shipped and to whom they are consigned, to serve me as a guide. However, if you gentlemen can find a more effective remedy, kindly advise me.

At different times pieces of pork have also been found in some casks of mackerel coming from your place. These I have declared as prohibited; and as I do not know whether or not this was done in your country, they will so remain until you gentlemen furnish further information about the matter.

Again imploring you to find some means of preventing such great abuses, if you possibly can, and praying God to bless you according to your own wishes, I am,

Your most affectionate friend and servant,

SEM<sup>L</sup> MENDES DE SOLLA

Curaçoa, K. K. Mikve Israel

Sivan 5513 [1753]

[This manuscript is in Portuguese. See in this connection *Publications*, No. 21, pp. 56, 77 and 78, and Samuel Oppenheim, *id.*, No. 25, p. 43. De Solla was the Haham of Curaçao; see Corcos, *op. cit.*, p. 30.]

[No. 106]

September 21st, 1754. Note of Alexander Barent to Joseph Simson for K. K. S. I.

[No. 136]

1757—Letter of Trustees of London Congregation to Trustees K. K. S. I., asking further instructions about choosing a Hazan for N. Y. Synagogue.

Mess<sup>rs</sup>. The Parnas & Gentlemen in the Direction of the K. K<sup>s</sup>. of Seerit Israel in New York;

LONDON, October 28 of 1757 or 14<sup>th</sup> Hesvan 5518  
Gentlemen;

We acknowledge the Receipt of your Favour of the 4<sup>th</sup> Elul by the Hands of M<sup>r</sup>. Moses Franks, whereby you desire us to recommend you a Young Man, of good Morals & strictly religious, with the advantage of an agreeable Voice & Capacity for teaching of Hebrew, & translating it into English as well as Spanish, such a Person being wanted to supply the Place of your present Hazan, in reading the Prayers & the Law, as also for instructing the poor Boys; In Consequence of your said Application we have made an Enquiry, and some have offered themselves, tho' not such as we could entirely wish.



however 'tis possible that in a little time longer some one may appear, worthier of our Recommendation, but we foresee that who ever presents himself as a Candidate, will insist that his Passage and Charges be defray'd & will expect that an Agreement be made for a certain Term of Years, since otherwise it will be very precarious for any Man to go over, liable to be displaced upon any Dislike, and exposed to return at his own Expence; Considering the Season is so far advanced none can go before the Spring, we therefore hope to have in Time your further Instructions on the above, and whether a married Man with a Family would be approved of, as also whether the Fifty Pounds Sterling is exclusive of Offerings & Perquisites, for tho' these are voluntary and uncertain, they still may serve as an Inducement to a Person properly qualified, who without such Encouragement may not think it expedient to go;

We sincerely wish you, Prosperity & Happiness, and conclude subscribing ourselves;

Gentlemen

Your very humble Servants

The Parnassim & Gabay of the K. K<sup>s</sup>. of Sahar  
Asamaim

MOSES LOPES PEREIRA

DANIEL MENDES SEIXAS

MOSES GOMES SERRA

MOSEH DE JACOB FRANCO

HANANEL MENDES DA COSTA

Gabay

[Addressed on back as follows:]

To

Mess<sup>rs</sup>. the Parnas & Gentlemen  
in the Direction of the K. K<sup>s</sup>. of  
Seerit Israel

In

New York

[No. 279-B]

1758—Contemporaneous copy of original letter of Trustees of K. K. S. I. to K. K. Shaar Hashomayim in London, to select a Hazan for K. K. in New York.

Messrs. The Parnassim and Gabay of the K. K. of Sahar Asamaim In London

NEW YORK March 13<sup>th</sup> 1758  
or 3<sup>d</sup> Veadar 5518

Gentlemen,

Wee have receivd the favour of your Letter of the 14<sup>th</sup> Hesvan whereby wee are Acquainted that No Suteable Person and worthy of your recommendation had yet presented, to Supply the place of our Late Hazan but Possible Some proper one might offer in a little time—However, desiring our further Instructions thereon wee have no Objection to a married man, but would choose one, rather if with a Small Family and not Attended with much Charge, as our Congregation is Small and few that are Able To Contribute to the Support thereof The Salary of Fifty Pounds Sterling, is Exclusive of volutary offerings, Marriages and other things of that Kind, also of those Children whose Parants are able to pay for thire Schoolinge, Should a proper Person present wee Shall defray the reasonable Expence of thire Sea Store and Passage, which wee Shall Desire Mr Moses Franks To Supply, As to Settling a Salary for a term of years or Returning at our Expence, on any little Disquiet which he Might take, it is not agreable to the Congregation, and wee Presume might be attended with bad Consequence, if the Person so fixed Should build thereon, and be the very meanes of Producing Some kind of Dislike which wee would Willingly Avoid but wee think there will be no reason to doubt his Continuance Should he not Misbehave, which wee hope will Not happen as wee are Confident that your goodness would not Recommend any but Such as may Appear proper & worthy Thereof, wee Shall Esteem the favour of your Answer Soon as possible, that if wee cant Soon have a proper Person from

London on these terms, wee may Endeavor to provide for one  
Some other way wee Sincerely wish you all Prosperity and  
Happieness and Conclude with Due respect

Gentlemen

your most Obliged Hb Serv<sup>ts</sup>,  
The Parnassim and Elders in the  
Direction of the K K<sup>s</sup>. of Seherith  
Israel in New York.

[No. 172]

NEW YORK, March 13<sup>th</sup>—1758

Mr. Moses Franks

Sir Wee Acknowledge our Selves Indebted to you for your  
fav<sup>r</sup>. & Deligence in waiting on the Gent<sup>m</sup> of the Mahamad with  
our Letter to which have recev<sup>d</sup>. an Answer, as wee are fully  
Satisfied of your good Inclinations in Serving our Kaal—  
Imboldens us to Intrude further on your goodness Desiring  
youl be so Kind to Deliver the Inclos<sup>d</sup>, being an Answer to  
thire Letter Should they Nominate any Person Worthy of  
Thire Recomandation to Come over in the Carictor of a  
Hazan for our Congregation, Desire youl be pleas<sup>d</sup>, to Supply  
him with as much as may be reasonable to lay in a deceant  
Sea Store & Pay the passages Should he be a man with a  
family if cannot agree to have it paid here, for which you may  
Draw on us or Shall order the payment at London as it  
Sutes best your Assistance thirein may get thire passage at  
a more moderate Rate which Shall take Kind wee Conclude  
wishing you a Merry Holyday, with health & prosperity, wee  
are Respectfully

Sir yor Fd & most Humbe Ser<sup>vt</sup>—

I G  
S S

[See reply to this letter, recommending Rev. Joseph  
Jessurun Pinto, in Gaster's "History of the Ancient Syna-  
gogue," London, 1901, p. 139.]

[No. 172]

Old Hebrew Letter from the Holy Land asking assistance from the Congregation in New York. No Name—No Date.

[No. 222]

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The Honorable, the Parnassim and Gabay of the K. K. Scherit Israel.

From the letter which the gentlemen of our Mahamad have received from you and which I am answering at their request, I observe that because you are without a Hazan you are shipping meats either without certificate or without specifying in accompanying certificates the exact number of casks. Besides this, I learn from your former Hazan that there is no Somer in the slaughter-house, and that he used to give certificates for meat which he was not able to warrant to have been properly slaughtered, porged and made casher.

It seems to me that you ought to have a Sohet and Bodek who is a good Jew, who has Semaha from some Portuguese Haham (so that there shall be no unsoundness as regards Sirchot), and that you have him or some other person who knows how to porge meat, certify the number of casks and their contents to be meat killed and porged by said Bodek. Further, you should also have a Somer in the slaughter-house and said Somer should put his seal upon each piece of meat. By this means, the Hazan or whoever is designated by him, will be able to certify to the signature of the Bodek. Also, if it should be found that salting has been omitted in the meat, putting in the salting [afterwards] leaves it trefah nevertheless.<sup>1</sup> You should see to it, moreover, that no Goy has a concern in the meat, as otherwise it will be trefah.

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<sup>1</sup> [The Portuguese reads: *Elomo se tem achado que emfaltando piquel nas Carnes, lhe deitaó piquel trefo.* As "piquel" is not a Portuguese word, and Kingston was an English colony, the English sense of salting or putting the meat in pickle was no doubt here intended.]

There being nothing more to suggest at present, and assuring you that I am at your service, praying and imploring God to bless you,

Your humble servant

JEOSHUA HIS: DE CORDOVA

Kingston, Jamaica

8 April 1758.

[Endorsed:]

For Messrs. Is<sup>c</sup>: Gomez and Sampson Simson

Parnassim.

[This manuscript is in Portuguese. For the answer to this letter see *Publications*, No. 21, p. 77, and *cf. id.*, pp. 63 and 77.]

[No. 207]

1759. Hebrew letter of Joseph Jessurun Pinto to Trustees of K. K. S. I.

To the Parnassim, officers and members of our holy congregation Shearith Israel (whom God preserve):

Greeting: I desire to tell you that after all this had come to pass, and when I had sufficiently calmed down, I searched my inmost soul and examined my actions from my earliest childhood down to this very day. My soul was much alarmed to know what objection there could be and why. I found nothing sinful clinging to my hands, but nevertheless my heart found no rest and I recalled what the sages of blessed memory have said: "When punishment comes upon a man, let him look into his deeds, for they are the chastisements of love, as it is said, 'Whom the Lord loveth, He chasteneth.'"

On further examination I found in the Midrash Shochar Tob the commentary on the verse, "Wherefore should I fear in the days of evil when the iniquity of my heels shall compass me about," that a man's iniquities are blood on his heels which stand in accusation against him and surround him on the day of judgment. But after earnest reflection I can find myself

guilty of no other wrongdoing save that I have transgressed one of the positive commands of the Torah, namely "That which goeth forth from thy lips, thou shalt keep and do according as thou hast vowed to the Lord, thy God, the offering which thou hast spoken with thy mouth." For it happened that when I was on board ship, I had no strength to fast, and I was forced to forego three fasts, one for the soul of my father, one for the soul of my mother, and the third for the tenth of Tebet. And I vowed still another fast to give thanks to God for bringing me hither and delivering me from the waters of the sea. And for the three I vowed compensation, and of them I have already carried out one which I fasted last Monday, and I am fasting to-day, because to-morrow is a Congregational fast, and the two which remain, I will fulfil next week in fulfilment of the vow which I have vowed to the Lord.

Having completed this introspection, and having found myself guiltless save in the instance above-mentioned, I determined to do penance for all the transgressions of my life—above all for evil thoughts. For the rabbis say that thought of sin is more grievous than sin itself, and therefore man should be in a state of penance all his days. The verse says: "When a man or woman shall commit any sin transgressing against the Lord, and that person be guilty; then shall they confess their sin they have done." And since I wish to be a prosperous man, and to have the Lord with me as he was with Joseph the righteous, of whom it is said, "And the Lord was with Joseph and he was a prosperous man," therefore I am specifying the sin I know I have committed and am confessing all my sins both known and unknown. For King Solomon sayeth: "He who covereth his sins shall not prosper."

Now one who comes to purify himself is aided by Heaven. And Repentance is a great thing, since for the sake of a penitent individual God forgives him and the rest of the world

along with him. One of the highest degrees of penance is that which a man does in his youth, gradually turning aside from the evil way. Concerning him it is said, "Happy is the man who feareth the Lord," as much as to say, "He who fears the Lord is happy," (that is), he who does penance is truly a *man* in his might. And this is the root of penitence that a man should forsake his evil ways and not return to them, but choose instead the good. As it is said, "Whoso confesseth and forsaketh his sins shall have mercy."

In view of the above I threw myself upon the mercy of the Lord, for He is a merciful and compassionate King, abundant in mercy and great in beneficence. And just as the Holy One, blessed be He, forgives and passes over all our faults and wrongdoings and sins, so must every man of flesh and blood pardon his neighbor when he comes to purify himself, to return from evil and choose the good. For the prophet has said, "None of his sins which he hath committed shall be mentioned unto him in the day that he turneth from his wickedness," for he hath done that which is lawful and right. Higher also is the standing of the penitent than that of the truly righteous. For Rabbi Abbahu in the treatise Berachoth, chapter En Omedin, says, "In the place where the penitent stand, not even the wholly righteous can stand, as it is said, 'Peace, peace to him that is far off and to him that is near,' to him that is far off first and then to him that is near."

And since I have come to the rest and to the inheritance which the Lord my God has given me, but have not benefited from it so far, I will vow that henceforth I shall do nothing unseemly in the eyes of God and man, to be innocent before God and Israel and to fulfil that which King Solomon said, "to find grace and good repute in the eyes of God and man."

Gentlemen, take note and observe that it is very painful to me, that after having left my native place, the great city of Amsterdam, and come to a very populous city, more highly praised and more glorious than all others, London, where I

began to find rest for my feet,—that now, after having come hither, across the dangerous seas, I should be obliged once more to go to lands and places which neither I nor my ancestors knew, and to become a wanderer and a fugitive upon the earth. If this be my portion and my lot, cheerfully do I submit to the will of Heaven. For I am still in the strength of my youth—no more than 30. Nevertheless it is better for a man to dwell in peace and quiet in his home, with none to make him afraid.

Therefore I ask pardon of you for all wherein I have transgressed. And if you so will, and I find grace in your eyes, you may try me from now to Rosh Hashana without any pay to see whether I do my duty. Moreover you may put upon me whatever conditions you will, and I will agree thereto and sign my name to the contract. Should I fail to carry out any of the conditions you will not be obliged to pay anything, and I shall leave my profession forever. In any case, it is better to be one of the oppressed than of the oppressors, for so have the sages said in the treatise Gittin, chapter Hasholeach: “Those who are oppressed without oppressing, who hear reproaches without answering, of them it is written, ‘They that love Him shall be as the sun when it goes forth in its might.’” And let no man bring himself into the power of temptation, for King David brought himself into the power of temptation and fell; and we do not trust to miracles nor stand in a place of danger. All this have I set down after mature thought, and have taken it upon myself not to turn aside therefrom. May God help me, Amen.

May the Lord give you blessing and prosperity in all the work of your hands, and may He prosper your affairs and give long life to your wives, sons and daughters, and all your dear ones, and cause them to grow up for the Law, for the Commandments, for the wedding canopy and for good deeds. In your days and in mine and in the days of all our brethren of the House of Israel, may the Redeemer come unto us and lead



us back to our country. Oh, may this come speedily; may this be His will, and let us say, Amen.

Your most humble servant

JOSEPH JESSURUN PINTO.<sup>1</sup>

NEW YORK, the 16th of the month of Tammuz 5519 [July 11, 1759].

[No. 201]

February 11th, 1760. Petition of Aaron Salom of St. Lucia, Jamaica, to New York Congregation, applying for position as Hazan.

[No. 83]

1760. Contemporaneous copy of a letter Sent to Mr. Benjn. Perira, Jamaica.

Mr. Benj Pereira  
Sr

NEW YORK, Dec<sup>r</sup> 16 1760

After our compliments to you and your family wee take this opper<sup>y</sup> to acquaint you that at a meeting of the Elders of this K. K. it was agreed that wee should apply to you and that you will be good enough to Engage a Suitable Master Capable to Teach our Children y<sup>e</sup> Hebrew Language; English & Spanish he ought to know: but he will not Suit unless he understands Hebrew and English at Least: this must Require your particular care: A Single: modest: Sober: person will be most agreeable however on your good Judgement wee shall depend as you Very well know our minds and Tempers. and can make Choice of Such as will be Suitable. and Capable of y<sup>e</sup> undertaken: he must oblige himself to keep a publick School at the usual Hours of the forenoons on every Customary Day at our Jesiba. Children whos parents are in needy Circumstances he must Teach Gratis: his Salary shall be first at Forty pounds New york money pr year and shall Commence from the Day of his Arrival here. and all other Children he Teaches must and will pay him as has

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<sup>1</sup> [For other references to Joseph Jessurun Pinto, see Index volume of *Publications* and also No. 21.]

been done heretofore. wee flatter ourselves you will Excuse the Trouble wee give you as it will Very much oblige our whole Congregation and in a more particular manner the Parnassim who are

S<sup>r</sup> your most ob<sup>t</sup> Humble [Serv<sup>t</sup>.] <sup>1</sup>

[No. 109]

[Undated letter in Portuguese of Judah de Moseh Aguilar to the Parnassim and Adjunta of K. K. [Shearith Israel], mentioning that he had been taken captive and deprived of all he had, and requesting assistance in securing passage to Jamaica.]

[No. 118]

LONDON Feb. 17[61].

From the enclosed letters of the very Reverend Haham Haim Mudahy and his associates, the gentlemen appointed for the purpose, you will learn of the wretched and deplorable condition of our poor brethren in that part of the world, which we refrain from mentioning so as not to grieve you. We simply write these lines to tell you that we know of their great misfortune and of the necessity for immediate relief. We pledge ourselves as sponsors for this mitzvah and are sure that the Congregation will not only contribute as a whole, but that each individual member will give generously toward the relief of that poor Kehilah which has suffered so much. We have no doubt that your benevolent hearts will follow the same example in order to re-establish the destroyed synagogues and the ruined "medrasim". May the Almighty influence your hearts and endow us with the will to do good. May He deliver you from similar misfortune and grant you many years.

Your sincere servants

MANASSEH MENDES DA COSTA

EPHRAIM DE AGUILAR

[This manuscript is in Portuguese.]

[No. 307]

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<sup>1</sup> [MS. torn.]

Illustrious Gentlemen, the Parnassim, Gabayim and other Gentlemen of the Kehilah Kadosh of New York, which God may increase and prosper.

I humbly and respectfully beg to state that from the accompanying letters written to you by my companions appointed from the Holy Land and who are now in Constantinople, you will learn of the great misfortune and calamity which our brethren have suffered in the holy city of Zaphet caused by the earthquake which occurred on the 9th of Hesvan of the year 5520 [October 30, 1760]. The earthquake damaged the synagogues as well as the large Midrash; many houses were totally destroyed and many people lost all they possessed. They were obliged to flee from their homes in their shirts, almost naked, and one hundred and sixty souls lie buried beneath the ruins, their own homes being their tombs.

This misfortune plunged the city into great distress and heavily increased the burden of this poor Kehilah. These considerations forced the above-mentioned gentlemen to send a representative in order to call the attention of other holy and charitable Kehilot to the necessity for prompt and liberal relief to alleviate the disaster which brought such terrible misfortune and unspeakable distress, a calamity from which God may deliver us and never again permit to befall children of Israel.

This committee of the Holy Land selected me to go to all the Kehilot for relief funds. Though this journey necessitated my leaving my work as one of the Dayanim of the holy Kehila of Constantinople and meant that I give up the continuous study of the Holy Law, I could not refuse so urgent a mission, for I felt that I would thereby contribute to the relief of a holy and suffering Kehila. Divine Providence has assisted me to the present time, for I have acquainted all the Kehilot I have passed on my way hither with the great necessity for immediate action; and there is not a Congregation, no matter

how small, in Italy, France, and more particularly in Amsterdam, which has not contributed generously toward this mitzvah, exceeding in their liberality what they have done for other Seluhim [Messengers from the Holy Land].

I trust to Divine Grace that you will undertake the work with all your hearts, as you have heretofore done on all other occasions, and that you will gladly contribute as generously in the present emergency as have other Kehilot, so that by your acts, Omnipotent God may redeem us from our bitter and prolonged captivity, and that He may bless you, prosper and increase you. I salute you from the depths of my heart in my appeal.

Your most humble and sincere servant

HAIM MUDAHY.

Whatever generous contributions for relief you may make, kindly remit to Messrs. Ephraim Lopez Pereira and Hananel Mendes Da Costa, sponsors of this charity.

[This manuscript is in Spanish.]

[No. 120]

5521. Receipt written in Hebrew by Joseph Simon and others of Philadelphia to K. K. S. I. for loan of Sefer.

With the help of God. On this Tuesday 9 Elul 5521 [September 8, 1761]. Philadelphia.

May He who suspends the earth on nothingness inscribe and seal you in the book of life. To the Honorable the leaders and elders of the holy congregation Shearith Israel in the city of New York, which the Lord may preserve, and to its honored Parnas Presidente Samuel<sup>1</sup> [Hart]

We the undersigned hereby acknowledge that we have borrowed and received a Scroll of the Law from the gentlemen

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<sup>1</sup> [See *Publications*, No. 21, p. 211.]

above mentioned belonging to the synagogue of the said congregation in order to fulfil the Biblical injunction "The book of the Law shall not depart from thy mouth."

And we hereby declare that if the above named gentlemen hereafter need said scroll, we the undersigned promise to return it to their synagogue without any let, plea or excuse whatsoever.

In witness whereof we have hereunto signed our names

JOSEPH SIMON

MATHIAS BUSH

MORDECAI *son of the late learned Rabbi Moses Mich[al]*  
[Moses Mordecai]

BARNARD GRATZ

MOSES HEYMAN

MEYER *son of late Joseph (מייזער-Meyer) I have signed  
concerning scroll above mentioned. Reading.*

[From the above it would appear that there was at that early date a Jewish community at Reading, Pa., that was borrowing a scroll of the law from the New York Congregation and procuring it through the influence of the leaders of the Philadelphia Congregation who guaranteed its return.]

[No. 110]

[Letter of Hannah Louzado, dated New Brunswick [N. J.], November 1761, asking that money and provisions be sent her, as she is too ill to come for them herself.<sup>1</sup>]

[No. 77]

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<sup>1</sup> [See *Publications*, No. 21, pp. 72, 89, 91, 93, 124.]

1761 & 1762—Bills & receipts of Andrew Judah, Physician,  
for medical attendance & medicine to poor people for the  
K. K. S. I.

Sedaca		Dr
	To Andrew Judah Physician	
1761 from october 23d November 14	For attendins and medicyn for the Widow Salomons	£ 4.14
Credit	Receiv	3
1762 from Marst 17 at 25	for Attendins and medicyn	1.12
		<hr/> £4.12

Recive in full

New York 22 december

1762

ANDREW JUDAH

2.15. 5

1.18

---

4.13. 6

M<sup>r</sup> Isaac Gomez Sen<sup>r</sup>: Parnas

To Andrew Judah Physician

1762 from  
November 14  
at 20

For Attendance and medicyn  
to M<sup>r</sup>. Jacob—for the Sedaca £16  
Recive the above Sum of M<sup>r</sup>. Raphael  
Jacobs

NEW YORK

ANDREW JUDAH

1763 19 January  
1763

Jan<sup>y</sup> 26

To 56 wax dd Shamas @  $\frac{1}{8}$

4.13. 4

[No. 214]

Petition of Moses Calo, of Curaçao, August 1765, to the Elders of K. K. S. I., New York, applying for the position of Hazan in place of Joseph Jessurun Pinto, resigned, expressing his willingness to submit to an examination to demonstrate his fitness for the post, and enclosing the following certificate: Wee Under Written Certifie By these presents that Wee are all Well acquainted and Know Very Well the person of M<sup>r</sup> Moses Calo & whom By Experience We have of His person and good Behaviour Wee a Sure Him to Be a Very Deserving Virtuous and Honest Person and in all Respects Entirely Qualified Capable and Fit for the Employment of Chanter as also to occupy Said office In Any of Our Congregations Wheresoever

All the Above Wee assure to Be the Reall Truth of the Matter—In Witness Whereof We Signe this present with our hands—

In the Island of Curaçao this 19 August 1765

JACOB LOPEZ FONSECA

DAVID DE MOLINA Hazan

ELIAO LOPEZ Hazan

JACOB LEVY MADURO

JACOB DE JEOS. NAAR

SAUL & JOSIAO IDANHA D. CASSEREZ

COHEN HENRIQUEZ JUNIOR

AB<sup>M</sup>. LOPEZ PEÑA

ELIAS RODRIG<sup>S</sup> MIRANDA

[No. 121]

[Letter in Spanish, dated April 6, 1765, signed by Jacob L. Mendoza Ben Haim, asking assistance for his co-religionists after an earthquake. Place not mentioned.]

[No. 300, A]

1765—Letter of Rev. Joseph J. Pinto to K. K. S. I. after seven years of service, announcing his intention of returning to Europe and asking assistance for that purpose.

To the Most Worthy & Respected, Parnasim, assistants &  
Yehidim & the Holl Congregation of *Shearith Israel* \*  
Whom God Preserve

The Humble Petition of Joseph Jessurun Pinto, at Present Hazan of this *Kehilla* \* Sets forth, That being obliged to Remove With his Family From This Place to Europe, on Account of the unavoidable Necessite of attending him Self's to the Recovering a Small Estate Belonging to him & Which at present he is apprehensive is in Bad hands & Without his own immediate application in a proper manner, may never Come in to His hands & Having a Wife & two Children to Maintain, Which he Finds requires more Expence, Than he is at present able to Support Having for Near Seven years past Done his Utmost to Discharge the Functions of his office to the Satisfaction of all the Congregation, He Therefore Beggs your kind & Benevolent assistance to enable him to Pay His & his Family's passage to Europe, & extend to him the Same Humane Bounty, as has Been Bestowed on others, That tho Strangers, and Consequently never Contributed to the Service of the Congregation, yet Your Humane Hearts Compassionated their Care, & they have Been relieved from their Necessite & Helpt to remove from Hence to Some other Place, your Petitioner Beggs Leave in the most Solemn manner to assure you That his moving from this Place With His Family is not in any Schape Whatsoever owing to any fault He Can Possibly find, or has ever found During his residence in this City as Hazan of this Congregation, But only to the Imediate & unavoidable Necessite He Lays Under of Procuring by all Such Means, as the Almighty May Put in His Power the recovery of His own right from those Who by False Pertences Endeavour to keep Him from it, Which



His Duty to Him Selfs, to His Wife & Children obliges him to Do & which he is apprehensive will never be accomplished With his & His Familys personall application on the Spott Where the Same must be Legally Litigated, This is the only Instinc That forces him to Leave this Congregation, & to be Thus Troublesome to you, in Earnestly Requesting you to Enable him to pay the passage & other Charges Common in Such Cases, Hoping that Soon God Will be Pleased to Put in his Power to Return the Same, With his Thankfull acknowledgment for this & all other favours received at your Hands During His residence Amongst you, as your Hazan & Servant of the Congregation & praying the Lord of the Universe to Bless & prosper you all & your Familys & to Enable you at all Times to be the Support & protectors of the Necessitous, Vesalom Amen & so “*The Lord God of your fathers increase you a thousand fold and bless you as He has spoken to you.\** & so may be the Will of the Lord Amen \*

So Prays your Petitioner (as in Duty Bound)

Gent<sup>n</sup>. Your Very Most Humill & most  
obedient & Duttifull Servant

Hn Jos. JESURUN PINTO.

Sunday *the first day after the Sabbath* \* the Fast Day of Shebat *the fifteenth of the month of Shebat* \* In the Year 5526 *since the creation* \*

the 22<sup>d</sup>. of Dezember Anno 1765/

Addressed on the back as follows:

To

The Gent<sup>n</sup>. Parnassim Assistands Yehidim  
& the Holl Congregation of *Shearith Israel* \*  
Whom God Preserve.

[The MS. Synagogue accounts for 1766 show that £50 were paid for the passage and incidental expenses of Hazan Pinto and family to London.]

[No. 200]

[Petition to K. K. S. I. by Levi Michaels of Montreal, for funds to return to Canada, his money being exhausted from the unexpected prolongation of his stay in New York, and promising to return sum advanced as soon as possible after his arrival home. No date; probably 1765, as the item appears in the MS. Synagogue accounts for that year.]

[No. 131]

Contemporaneous copy of Letter to Mr. Moses Calo at Curaçao  
with another to Benjn. Per[eir]a.

Mr Moses Calo

NEW YORK, January 1766—

Sr.

Your favour of 19<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup>. was deliver'd us by Mr Joseph Jesurun Pinto, when he gave Notice of his Intentions of resigning his post, in May next. Observe the offer you make of officiating in his place. Our Congregation has had a meeting on the Occassion. and is come to this resolution. that whatever person has an Inclination of being Hazan, of this Congregation, must come over here—at their own Ex-pence, and performe Divine Service, in their heareing, as allso that they might be acquainted with his person. (not that they doubt your ability, as appears by the Certificate annex to your letters. signed by those whorthy Gent<sup>n</sup>) Upon those Conditions the person that is approved of, and Ellected for said post is to be allowed Eighty Pounds New York Cur-rency per Annum, Sallery, besides his perquisites & free gifts. as Mr Pinto has given this timely Notice those who intends to be Candidates for the place, may have time to Consider, wether it will suite them, to Come on those terms, as our Sedaka is verry low and not able to support any Ex-pence that might acerueu on that occassion We remain

Sir

Your most hh<sup>bl</sup> Serv<sup>ts</sup>

Copy/ Mr Benj<sup>n</sup> Per<sup>a</sup> NEW YORK Feby 3<sup>d</sup> 1766

Sir/ As wee have the hon<sup>r</sup>. of being Parnassim of this Congregation, Are to Informe you that M<sup>r</sup>. Jos. Jes<sup>n</sup>. Pinto our present Hazan has given notice of his Intentions of removeing with his family to Europe in May Next. so that the post will become Vacant

M<sup>r</sup> Moses Calo from Curaca has applied for the Same Upon w<sup>ch</sup>: have had a Meeting of the Whole Congregation and are come to this resolution, that who ever shall think proper to be a Candidate for the place are to come at their own Expence; as our Sedaka is very low and not able to support any charge that might accrew on that Occassion. The Sallary voted is Eighty pounds sterling Currency p<sup>r</sup> annum, besides perquisites & free gifts, so that wee thought proper to Acquaint you With the same, that if you should have any Inclination for it might Consider Wether it will suit or not Intirm remain

Sr.

Copy

Sign<sup>d</sup>

Your most hh<sup>bl</sup> Serv<sup>ts</sup>

BENJ GOMEZ

SAMUEL JUDAH

Endorsed on back as follows:

Copy of Letters wrote to M<sup>r</sup> Moses Calo at Curaçao M<sup>r</sup> Benj<sup>a</sup> Per<sup>a</sup>. at Jam<sup>a</sup>.

[No. 279, A]

[Petition of Isaac Da Silva, who had been discharged as Hazan of K. K. S. I., to the Parnassim and Adjuntos, for funds to leave the city.]

[No. 130]

[Petition of Abrm. I. Abrahams to the Parnassim of Shearith Israel reciting that he had been for seven years "Ribbi" of the Congregation, that he had been allowed £15 toward rent like the former Hazan Da Silva, that this allowance had

been withdrawn and that he now requests that the house next to the Synagogue formerly occupied by him be put in repair and he be permitted to re-occupy the same. Date about 1768. See *Publications*, No. 21, p. 97.]

[No. 48]

Oct. 8, 1777. Promissory Note of Levi Solomon to Solomon Simson, New York.

[No. 71]

[November 21, 1770.—Opinion of Whitehead Hicks,<sup>1</sup> in regard to disposal of vacant seats by the Elders, and method of dealing with persons seating themselves in places other than those assigned. Opinion states that as the Synagogue is not incorporated, its rules in that regard are not binding, but that disorderly behavior in constantly taking wrong seats, which disturbs worship, is punishable by indictment.]

[No. 124]

[July 28, 1771. Petition of Moses Lazarus, Shochet, to K. K. S. I. for increase in salary.]

[No. 128]

1772. Blank form of Bond by Trustees to the K. K. S. I. for House & Lot on Mill Street (not the Synagogue). No Signatures.

[Bond to be executed in 1772 by Daniel Gomez, Joseph Simson & Myer Myers. It recites that whereas indentures of lease and release dated Nov. 9th in the 32nd year of the reign of George II. were executed between Cornelius Clopper, Jr., of New York, and Catherine his wife, party of the one part, and Daniel Gomez, Joseph Simson and Myer Myers

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<sup>1</sup> [Whitehead Hicks was mayor of New York from 1766 to 1776.]

and one Jacob Franks since deceased, Trustees of the Jewish Congregation in the City of New York, whereby in consideration of £300, said Clopper and wife released unto said other parties in fee simple a certain dwelling house and lot 25 feet wide, fronting Mill Street, west of the Jews' Synagogue and adjoining the same, in trust for the benefit of the Jewish Congregation forever, and whereas said money was raised by general offerings in the Synagogue and other voluntary contributions and was not the money of said grantees, and whereas by the death of Jacob Franks, title is in the others specified by survivorship, in trust as aforesaid. Now the condition of this obligation is that if said Daniel Gomez, Joseph Simson and Myer Myers and their heirs shall well and faithfully perform and fulfil said trust, and not sell or encumber the premises but freely permit the same to remain for the use of the said Jewish Congregation, and convey the same upon request to such persons and upon such trusts as the Congregation shall designate, then this obligation shall be void, otherwise to be and remain in full force and virtue.]

[No. 56]

[September 9, 1773. Petition of Mark Jacobs, shopkeeper at New York, to Solomon Simson for relief from confinement in debtors' prison, New York.]

[No. 122]

Petition of Benjamin Jacobs to Hayman Levy in regard to marriage to non-Jewess. [Probably about 1775.]

Gentlemen, the petitioner hereof Benjamin Jacobs, Being upon the point of marriage, and the Lady, Whom he is about to espouse, Being desirous to live as a Jewess; Joins with him in this petition, and Begs that she may be married according to the manners and custom of the Jews, as it is her desire,

to live in the strict observance of all our Laws and customs, which if granted, will greatly oblige, both her and the Bearer, who waits at Mr cohens, to answer any questions, which the gentlemen, may think fit to ask him.

Addressed on back as follows:

Mr hayman Levy Ps

Present

[No. 107]

Illustrious Gentlemen, the Parnassim and Gabay of the K. K. of New York:

Gentlemen:

On reaching this city, the Haham Abraham Lebeth Leon, Saliah of the K. K. of Esmir,<sup>1</sup> tendered his credentials to the illustrious gentlemen of the Mahamad of this K. K. The latter noted the great calamity which said Kehila refers to, caused by the great fire which burned their homes, reducing them almost to ashes, and particularly the synagogues and schools where they were wont to meditate daily over the Holy Law. Owing to these great misfortunes, their reduced circumstances forced them to ask assistance from their brethren in order to rebuild their houses of worship. As this is a matter of great importance, it was resolved by the gentlemen of the said and other Kehilot to contribute from their Sedaka for this purpose. At their suggestion, we likewise undertook a separate collection among individual members; and as on all other occasions you have proven your zeal and fervor to help in urgent cases, we recommend the present case for your consideration, to relieve through the Sedaka of the Congregation as well as through contributions from the wealthier gentlemen of your community, so that every possible means of

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<sup>1</sup> [The Hebrew name for Smyrna.]

relief may be available. For this assistance you will surely merit the greatest reward.

Wishing you all possible happiness, we remain, gentlemen,

Your sincere servants who kiss your hands

GEORGE CAPADOLEN

ABRAHAM LEVY XIMENES

Chairmen of Committee for the collection of the K. K. of Esmir.

LONDON Feb. 24, 1775.

[This manuscript is in Portuguese.]

[No. 125]

Part of the Order of Service observed in the Synagogue Shearith Israel, on a day of humiliation, fasting & prayer, recommended by Congress in the year 1776 [May 17]:<sup>1</sup>

O Lord: the God of our Fathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, may it please thee, to put it in the heart of our Sovereign Lord, George the third, and in the hearts of his Councillors, Princes and Servants, to turn away their fierce Wrath from against North America. And to destroy the wicked devices of our enemies, that it may fall on their own heads. That there may no more blood be shed in these Countries, O Lord our God, we beseech thee to open unto us the gates of mercy on this our solemn Fast And that our prayers and the prayers of all the people that stand before thee this day, may come before thee that the [MS. torn] may no more pass through our Land. And that thou mayest send the Angels of mercy to proclaim Peace to all America and to the inhabetants thereof. That thou mayest once more plant an everlasting peace between Great Brittain and her Colonies as in former times and confirm unto us what is written. And they shall beat their

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<sup>1</sup> [This was before the Declaration of Independance. During the American Revolution the Congregation disbanded for patriotic reasons and closed the doors of the synagogue rather than continue under British auspices.]

swords into Plow-shares, and their spears into pruning hooks; Nation shall not lift up sword against Nation, neither shall they learn war any more. Amen.

[No. 234]

[New York, October 22d, 1783. Michael Hays' acknowledgment of terms with Alexander Zuntz in behalf of Congregation, for occupying the house formerly occupied by the Shamas, and promising to surrender the premises on eight days' notice.]

[No. 82]

Letter to George Clinton, Governor of New York from K. K.

S. I. No date, probably December 1783.<sup>1</sup>

To His Excellency Geo. Clinton, Governor of the State New York Commannr in Chief of the Militia, and Admiral of the Navy of the Same.

[Sir:]

Whilst our worthy fellow Citizens are addressing your Excellency [we should] do violence to our Inclinations and betray the Confidence reposed [in us] by the Antient Society of Israelites if we fail'd to welcome your Exceley. [on your] safe arrival in this City as our Chief Magistrate.

Tho' the Congregation we have the honor to represent is but [small] when compared to many others; yet we flatter ourselves, that none has manifested a greater attachment to the rights and liberties of our Country.

When we reflect on the Visitudes that has attended the different Stages of the War it fills us with surprise and gratitude; and tho' we have had our share of hardships and difficulties we hope with manly fortitude to surmount them.

We have had the happiness to see your Excellency take the quiet possession of the Metropolis of the State while our

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<sup>1</sup> [This is probably the first draft. Compare pp. 33-34. See *Publications*, No. 21, pp. 141, 143.]



fellow Citizens pay due obedience to the Laws, and vie with each other in keeping good Order.

Permit us to Congratulate your Excellency on the arrival of the definitive Treaty, a People who have been a mark for Plunder cant but doubly partake of the benefits of a Peace under the best of Constitutions which was form'd under the auspices of your Excellency; and wisely framed to insure [?] the inestimable Blessings of Civil and Religious Liberty.

It will be the anxious endeavors of the Members of our Congregation to render themselves worthy of those Blessings by discharging their duty in the support of your Excellency and the Constitution, but that Duty will receive Energy and force from our Divine Laws, and our natural Inclinations and [we] hope to meritt and Receive an equal share of your Excellencys Patronage.

May the Supreme Governor of the Universe take you under his holy protection, may you long continue to Exercise the dignifi'd office you now possess, with honor to yourself and benefit to your Constituents.

We have the honor to be in behalf of the Congregation with all imaginable regard your Excell<sup>ys</sup> mt. ob<sup>t</sup>. H Serv<sup>ts</sup>

[No. 171]

Address of Israelites to Governor Clinton, signed and presented by Hayman Levy, Myer Myers and Isaac Moses, in January 1784, pursuant to a Resolution of Congregation Shearith Israel, December 9, 1783.

To His Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor Captain General and Commander in Chief of the Militia of the State of New York and Admiral of the Navy of the Same.—

May it Please Your Excellency.—

We the Members of the Antient Congregation of Israelites, lately returned from Exile, beg leave to Welcome Your Arrival in this City, with our Most Cordial Congratulations.—

Though the Society, we Belong to, is but small, when Compared with other Religious Societies, Yet, we flatter ourselves, that none has Manifested a more Zealous Attachment to the Sacred Cause of America, in the late War with Great Britain.— We derive therefore the Highest Satisfaction from reflecting, that it pleased the Almighty Arbiter of Events, to dispose us to take part with the Country we lived in ; and we now look forward, with Pleasure to the happy days we expect to enjoy under a Constitution, Wisely framed to preserve the inestimable Blessings of Civil, and Religious Liberty.—

Taught by our Divine Legislator to Obey our Rulers, and prompted thereto by the Dictates of our own Reason, it will be the Anxious endeavour of the Members of our Congregation to render themselves Worthy of these Blessings, by Discharging the Duties of Good Citizens and as an Inviolable regard to Justice and the Constitution, has ever distinguished your Administration, they rest Confident of receiving an equal Share of your patronage.—

May the Supreme Governor of the Universe take you under his Holy Protection, and may you long continue to Exercise the Dignified Office You now Possess, with Honor to Yourself, and advantage to your Constituents.—

We have the Honor to Be, with the greatest Respect,  
In Behalf of the Antient Congregation of Israelites

Your Excellencys

Very Obedient Humble Servants

[See *Publications*, No. 21, pp. 141, 143, 184.]

[No. 13]

#### PRAYER IN HEBREW.

Endorsed “at New York—after the Revolution—composed by Rabbi Hendla-Iehochanan Van OEttingen-Jacob Cohen

acting in place of the Hazan of the Congn in the year 1784.

[The translation is as follows:]

We (turn) towards God and towards God are our eyes.

Blessed be the Lord who has dealt kindly with us, in His mercy and great kindness He has dealt magnanimously with us. By the breath of His mouth He has created heaven and earth and the world and those who dwell thereon. He gives light to the earth and its inhabitants. He has created all created things, and every existing thing He has produced, what exists created from the non-existent.

King eternal, to Him is Kingship, and He causes monarchs to reign. He it is who implanted peace in the heart of kings so that they may return the sword to its sheath. The Lord has said peace to those afar and to those near. We will praise the Lord in congregation for His kindnesses which He has benevolently bestowed upon us. We cried unto the Lord from our straits and from our troubles He brought us forth. And for us, a weak people, inhabiting the land, He in His goodness prospered our warfare. Thou hast restored us our inheritance from the hands of aliens and strangers and given us back the joy of our heart.

And now, King, exalted beyond all height, we have come to pour out our soul before Thee. Hear the prayer of Thy first-born son, Thy peculiar people, who trust in Thy thirteen attributes of mercy, that they return not empty from before Thee, faithful sons of faithful believers in the thirteen principles of Thy Law.

As Thou didst give of Thy glory to David, son of Jesse, and to Solomon his son Thou didst give wisdom greater than that of all men, so mayst Thou grant intelligence, wisdom, and knowledge to our lords, the rulers of these thirteen states, to judge the people, yea also to the commanding general, GOVERNOR CLINTON, together with their counsellors, advisers, (officers and deputies) each ruling in his sphere, each man by his

standard, each upon whose shoulder Thou hast set dominion. May he be upheld and his honor be high. May he be as the fresh olive tree, and blossom as the lily of the valley, as the rose of Sharon, and may he be as the tree planted by springs of water, whose fruit cometh forth in its due season and its leaf withereth not. And in whatsoever he doeth may he prosper.

And as in their great kindness they will deal well with us, and we shall dwell in quietness and peace in their shadow, so mayst Thou reward them according to their desert. Give to them the desires of their heart, so that they may deal well with us unceasingly. Cause us to find favor and grace in their eyes that they may set us a seal upon their heart. O that this may be Thy will and let us say Amen.

As Thou didst give strength to Samson, the son of Manoah that he rent a young lion in his might, so mayst Thou strengthen and support the saving shield of our lord and commanding general GEORGE WASHINGTON, the appointed chief of the war on sea and on land and throughout the country with all his forces infantry and cavalry. In Thine own time Thou wilt subdue the people beneath his feet until they turn their back to him and not their face; may they fall and rise up no more, and may he pursue his enemies, and overtaking them, not return until they are destroyed. O Lord save us now! O Lord prosper us now! O how goodly, how beautiful might it be wouldst Thou confirm the peace that Thou hast planted on the hearts of kings and rulers that they should beat their swords into plowshares, their spears into pruning forks, that nation should not lift up sword against nation nor should they any more learn war; that Thou wouldst establish over us the word that is written: "And I will set peace in the land and you shall dwell with none to make you afraid. Great is the peace to those who love Thy teaching, for them is no stumbling block. May peace be in thy rampart, prosperity in thy palaces." Set mercy in their heart that they

may deal kindly with us and with all Israel through the merit of the love of the patriarchs, as it is written: "And I shall remember my covenant with Jacob, also my covenant with Isaac, yea also my covenant with Abraham and the land shall I remember." O that this may be Thy will and let us say Amen.

As Thou hast granted to these thirteen states of America everlasting freedom, so mayst Thou bring us forth once again from bondage into freedom, and mayst Thou sound the great horn for our freedom as it is said: "And it shall be on that day, the great horn shall be blown and the wanderers in the land of Assyria and the dispersed in the land of Egypt shall come and bow down to the Lord on the holy mount in Jerusalem." May they be awakened from the dust to praise God: Hasten our deliverance at the day of retribution for Thou art our Redeemer. Then shall we sing a new song to the Lord, God of Israel, and there we shall serve Him with reverence as in the former days of old. May He show us wonders as in days of old, and may He the Holy One, blessed be He, restore the Presence to Zion and the order of service to Jerusalem. And may we be granted to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to behold His sanctuary. May He send us the priest of righteousness who will lead us upright to our land. May the beauty of the Lord be upon us, and may the redeemer come speedily to Zion in our days. O that this may be Thy will and let us say Amen.

[No. 64]

Report of meeting of K. K. S. I. relative to the appointment of Trustees.

NEW YORK 28<sup>th</sup> Sivan 5544 [June 17, 1784].

At a meeting of the Parnass & Junta on Monday last it was Resolved, that the Congregation be informed of the Proceedings relative to the Appointment of Trustees for this *Holy*

*Congregation* \* & the Hazan publish it in Synagogue next Sabbath

Whereas the Legislature of this State have pass'd An Act to enable &c &c.

In Consequence of which the Parnass & Junta after having maturely consider'd the Advantages as Specified in the Preamble of said Act that wou'd arise to this Society by conforming thereto, unanimously agreed to avail themselves thereof, & for this Purpose appointed two of the Elders viz<sup>t</sup>. Mess<sup>rs</sup> Solomon Simson & Alex<sup>r</sup>. Zuntz to preside at an Election to be held on the 12<sup>th</sup> May last, & to be the returning Officers, of which legal Notice was given in the Synagogue two Sabbaths preceding,—which Election was held & continued by Adjournment till the 19<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> May—when on summing up the Votes—the Majority appear'd in favor of Mess<sup>rs</sup>. Myer Myers, Hayman Levy, Solomon Simson, Isaac Moses, Solomon M. Cohen & Benjamin Seixas who are hereby declared to be the Trustees of this K K for the present Year.

Mr Hayman Levy, Mr. Benjamin Seixas, the first Class, Mr. Myer Myers, Mr. Solomon M. Cohen, the second Class & Mr. Solomon Simson & Mr. Isaac Moses the Third Class—

And in pursuance to the Act above Mention'd the presiding Elders sign'd & presented the following Certificate to one of the judges of the Supreme Court of this State to wit—

#### Certificate

This Certificate being read & Allowed to be strictly conformable to Law by the Hon'ble John Sloss Hobart one of the Judges of the Supreme Court he has granted a Charter Manner & form following—

#### Charter

The Parnass & Junta likewise takes this Method to acquaint the Members of this Congregation, that a thorough Conviction of the Propriety & Utility of obtaining a Charter in

behalf of this K. K. has been with them the chief Inducement—and have not in any wise been actuated by any selfish motives or sinister Designs whatever—& Do freely declare themselves to be entirely divested of Prejudice or Partialty to any Person or Persons, but will at all times do everything in their Power for the Benefit of this Society, & they do most strenuously request the Members to exert themselves in every respect to promote Unanimity & Concord among ourselves whereby we shall become Acceptable in the sight of God, & Respectable to Man

*And Peace be upon Israel.\**

[No. 111]

1784—Inventory of K. K. S. I. Chest, receipted by Alex. Zuntz, Treasurer. A true copy of original, Isaac H. Levy.

A Small Chest Containing the following Articles, viz<sup>t</sup>:

- N<sup>o</sup>. 1 William Merrit & Margary his Wife's deed to Joseph Bueno for 52 feet or thereabouts for the Beth Hiam—  
2 Richard Davis Att<sup>y</sup> to Noy Wiley, Deed to Lewis Gomez Mordecay Daniel & David Gomez for a Lot adjoining the above—  
3 An Order of Council to appropriate the above Lots for the use of the Burying Ground—  
4 Cornelious Clopper & Catherine his Wife their Deed to Lewis Gomez Jacob Franks Mordecay Gomez Rodrigo Pacheco for the Lot of ground whereon the School stands &c  
5 Cornelious Clopper jun<sup>r</sup> & Cathrine his Wife Deed to Daniel Gomez Joseph Simson Jacob Franks & Myer Myers for the House & Lot adjoining the Shool—  
6 Bond from Lewis Mordecay Daniel and David Gomez In the penal Sum of £1000. to secure the Burying Ground—  
7 Bond from Lewis Gomez Jacob Franks Mordecay Gomez and Rodrigo Pacheco In the Penal Sum of £2000 to secure the Lot Ground whereon the Shool is built  
8 Draughts taken by different Surveyors of the above Ground & Lotts

- 9 Lease and Release for the Beth Hyiam in Charles Town  
known by the Name of Beth Alohim—  
10 A Bundle Ketubas—  
11 Attorneys Opinions—  
12 Petitions—  
13 a Bundle Letters—  
14 Accounts & Receipts  
15 Notes & Receipts  
16 Agreements  
17 Receipts  
18 a Bundle of papers of no Consequence  
19 A Marble Cover Books of Acc<sup>ts</sup> & Receipts

List Continued from the other side—

No 20 A Receipt Book for the use of the Treasurer—

New York July 25<sup>th</sup> 1784 Received of Mess<sup>rs</sup> Solomon Simson,  
Solomon Myers Cohen and Benjamin Seixas a Committee appointed  
for the purpose, a small Chest, Containing the foregoing Articles  
from N<sup>o</sup>. 1. to 20.

Contents not Examined

(Signed) ALEX<sup>R</sup> ZUNTZ

Treasurer.

A true Copy of the

Original taken the 7<sup>th</sup> August 1786 by

Isaac H. Levy

[No. 116]

List of Debts Due to the Sedaka of K. K. Shearith Israel,  
Nisan 8th, 5547, March 27, 1787.

Abr <sup>m</sup> . Isaacs	£ 3. 8
Abr <sup>m</sup> . Abrahams	5.14. 6
Alex <sup>r</sup> . Zuntz	5. 2
Benja <sup>n</sup> . Jacobs	2.11
Benj <sup>n</sup> . Seixas	1. 5
Sol. Sim[s]on	4.19.10
Hyam Solomons	5. 7. 6
Eleazer Bensaken	.16
Eleazer Levy	1. 5



Abraham Gomez	£ . 4	p <sup>d</sup>
Moses Abrahams	. 1. 6	
Isaac Abrahams	.15. 6	
Josiah Ellis	1. 5. 6	
Man <sup>l</sup> Myers	1. 8	p <sup>d</sup>
Barnet Hart	1	
Sol <sup>n</sup> . M. Cohen	21.18. 6	
Sam <sup>l</sup> De Lucena	2.19	
Simeon Levy	4.13. 6	
Sam <sup>l</sup> Israel	8. 4	
Isaac Moses	2.15	Charged
Isaac H. Levy	1. 6. 6	D <sup>o</sup>
Sol <sup>n</sup> . Levy	.16	D <sup>o</sup>
Myer Myers	19. 8	
Isaac & Benj <sup>n</sup> . Gomez	. 8	p <sup>d</sup>
Isaac Pinto	.14. 6	p <sup>d</sup>
Rachel Pinto	. 2. 6	p <sup>d</sup>
Levy Cohen	2.19. 6	
Simon Nathan	1.19. 6	
Gershom Seixas	9.18	p <sup>d</sup>
Moses Myers	11. 8. 6	p <sup>d</sup>
Joseph Pinto	9.15	
Hyam Myers	1. 9. 6	p <sup>d</sup>
Jacob Mordecai	24.13. 6	
Nathan Joseph	1.10	
Sol <sup>n</sup> . Simson	9. 2	
Emanuel Gates	. 3. 6	
Myer Regensberg	2.15. 6	
Elias Hart	2	
Hayman Levy	8.17. 6	Charged
Simon Odler	.16	p <sup>d</sup>
A. A. Van Ottingen	5. 2	
Moses Gomez & Son	1. 9. 6	p <sup>d</sup>

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£195. 6. 6

Amo <sup>t</sup> Bro <sup>t</sup> Over	£195. 6. 6
Uriah Hendricks & Son	1.19. 6
Sam <sup>l</sup> Judah	3. -. 6
Henry Marks	1. 7. 6
Moses Davis	3.19. 6
Hart Jacob	1. 1

Sam <sup>l</sup> Lazarus	£ . 4	p <sup>d</sup>
Moses Lazarus	.17. 6	p <sup>d</sup>
Ephraim Hart	2. 8. 6	p <sup>d</sup>
Abraham Jacobs	. 4	
Elcan	.17	
David Phillips	1. —. 6	
Joseph Moravia	.16	
Jonas Phillips	. 3	
Michael Gratz	3.17	
Solomon Lyon	.18. 6	p <sup>d</sup>
Isaac Michels	. 5	p <sup>d</sup>
Andrew Hays	2.15	
Benj <sup>n</sup> Nones	25.12	
D <sup>o</sup> D <sup>o</sup>	1.14	p <sup>d</sup>
Aaron Pimontel	2. 8	
Elias Noah	.8. 6	p <sup>d</sup>
Isaac Da Costa	4. 1	
Joshua H Mandells	.10	
Moses Hombertz	. 8	
Sol <sup>n</sup> . Marks	.12	
Barnet Cohen	1.15	
Joseph Simson	5. 4	
Joshua Isaacs	2.13	
Moses A. Myers	. 4	
Joseph Mordecai	4. 9	
Sol <sup>n</sup> . M. Myers	3. 4. 6	
Lion Hart	2. 5	
Barnard Gratz	1.19	
Moses Cardoza	3. 7	
Abr <sup>m</sup> . Cardoza	2. 4	
Barah Hays	. 5. 6	
David Hays	2. 2	
Sol <sup>n</sup> Macaudo Surinam	3. 3	
Moses Abrahams Jamaica	1. 5	
Samuel Myers-Taylor	. 4. 6	
Durmin	1.11	
	£292.19. 6	
Amo <sup>t</sup> Bro <sup>t</sup> Forward	£292.19. 6	
Hazan Cohen	. 9	
Michael Hart	. 9	
Benj <sup>n</sup> . Israel	.14	
Doctor Graham	.14	

Isaac A. Abrahams	£ 1.15	
Sampson Lazarus	2. 6	
Jacob Phillips	13. 9.10	
Elias Benjamin	1. 9. 6	
Moses Gomez Jun	1	
Benj <sup>a</sup> . S. Judah	. 2	
	<hr/>	
	£312.14. 4	£1. 8
N York March 28 <sup>th</sup> 1787 Benj <sup>a</sup> Seixas		2. 8
April 25 <sup>th</sup> Elias Phineas paid		11. 6
		<hr/>
M. Myers	. 5	4. 7. 6
		2.10
		1. 2. 6
		<hr/>
		8. 0. 6

[No. 91]

Account of Monies recd for Offerings to the Tsedeka of K. K. *Shearith Israel* \* for Quarter the first 5548 from 6th Tebet 5548, [December 18th, 1787], till Ros Hodes Sabat [January 10, 1788], total amount being £45. 1.11. [Hand-writing of Rev. G. Seixas.]

Ab <sup>m</sup> Isaacs	Ab <sup>m</sup> Gomez	Myer Rugensberg
Ben S Judah	Sam <sup>l</sup> A Lopez	Isaac & R Pinto
Joshua Levy	Jose Decosta	Simeon Levy
Solo <sup>a</sup> Gabriel	Sol <sup>a</sup> Lion	Man <sup>l</sup> Noah
Moses Lazarus	Haim Solomons	Joseph Myers
Isaac Abraham	Sam <sup>l</sup> Lazarus	Hyam Myers
Uriah Hendricks	Joseph Pinto	Henry Marks & Sons
Benj <sup>a</sup> Jacobs	Man <sup>l</sup> Gates	Moses Gomez Jun <sup>r</sup>
M <sup>rs</sup> Myers & Sons	Josiah Ellis	Haim Halbourne
Eph <sup>m</sup> Hart	Alex <sup>a</sup> Zuntz	Nathan Joseph
Simon Odler Cohen	Samuel Judah	Levy Cohen
Moses Homberg		
Sol <sup>a</sup> Simson		

[No. 50]

[1787—Report of Hayman Levy as treasurer of K. K. S. I. Among other items is one for £23 "credited in former acct.

for offerings previous to my leaving this city in 1775, but no person who was then in debt having allowed it, I have no right. I therefore make a charge of it untill all those accts of that time is also settled.”]

[No. 114]

Letter of James Foster to Trustees of K. K. S. I., asking letter of Introduction to Congn. in Amsterdam for the purpose of entering into the Covenant, as this was refused him in this Congregation.

Gen/<sup>m</sup>.

June 5 5548 [1788] NEW YORK

I came into this City 19<sup>th</sup> of last March with a desire to take hold of Gods holy Covenat but as it is not thought expedient to grant me my disere at this place, I do earnestly request you in the Name of the God of Israel to assist me in my pious design by giving me Such letters of Recomendation as Shall Serve to introduce me to an AQuaintence with the Jews in Amsterdam where I hope to get my deseire in part fulfilled, give me leve to make use of Ruths Reply to Naomi intreat me not to leve thee or to Return from following after thee for whither thou goest I will go—and where thou lodgest I will lodge thy People Shall be my People and thy God my God where thou diest will I die and there will I be buried the Lord do So to me if aught but deth part thee and me I am with all due Respect your Sincer frend and intended B<sup>r</sup>

JAMES FOSTER

Addressed on the back as follows:

Genell/ trustees of the  
Congregation of Jews in  
the City of New York

[No. 80]

[1788.—Account of K. K. S. I. with Hayman Levy during presidency of Samuel Judah.]

[No. 132]

Order of service arranged after the Revolution.

Order of Service for Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> Kislieu 5550. 26 Nov<sup>r</sup> 1789—Being the day appointed for publick Thanksgiving<sup>1</sup> & Prayer throughout the United States of America & & To begin with *O come let us sing unto the Lord* \* the first three Verses of P<sup>s</sup> 95

To Sing *O give thanks unto the Lord, call upon His name* \* (P<sup>s</sup> 105) as on Sabbath Morning—

Then the following Psalms The Hazan will sing the 1<sup>st</sup> Verse of each Psalm alone.

Psalms 30.33

[No. 49]

Receipts and Bills, K. K. S. I., 1790-1819.

Among these is a list of Debts due the Congregation from Ledger C which contains the following names:

— Bernardson	I. King Isaacs	Rodrigues Perara
Abm Block	Aaron Josephs	Joseph Cohen Salzedo
— Capadocia	A. Leipman	Jacob Soosman
E. N. Cavillo	Eleazer Leon	Robert Spier
Rachel Adler Cohen	Moses Leon	Aaron Symonds
— Coleman	Joseph London	Samuel Venir
Moses Davis	Harris Motta	Alexr Wertheim
M. Durhaim	Elias Noah	Solomon Windsor
Abm Forst	Aaron & Moses Nones	E. Zadocks
	Myer Odler.	

Also Original Confirmation Deed, dated December 3, 1771, by Leonard Lispenard to Cornelius Roosevelt of land in Bancker Street in rear of Jews' Burying Ground, and form-

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<sup>1</sup> [A thanksgiving sermon was delivered on this occasion by Rev. Gershom Seixas which was subsequently published and is referred to in a contemporary newspaper notice as probably the earliest sermon of its kind preached in New York. See Thomas E. V. Smith, "The City of New York in the Year of Washington's Inauguration in 1789," New York, 1889, p. 146. See also Leon Huhner in *Jewish Comment*, January 10, 1902.]

ing part of land once owned by Noy Willey, citizen and apothecary of London.

[No. 218]

July 2, 1790. Promissory Note of M. S. Hays to K. K. S. I., New York.

[No. 123]

[December 2, 1790. Contract between John Moore and Congregation Shearith Israel for building house on Mill Street. Description of house to be built. Payment £200. Signed by Solomon Simson, President of the Board of Trustees, Ben Judah, one of the Committee, and Isaac M. Gomez, Clerk.]

[No. 62]

[December 4, 1790. Warrant of K. K. S. I. to pay John Moore towards building a house on Mill Street, Solomon Simson, Parnas.]

[No. 135]

[December 4, 1790. Memorandum relating to loan of £300 negotiated for Trustees of K. K. S. I. by Manuel Myers and Benjamin S. Judah from G. S. Ludlow, New York.]

[No. 88]

1791—Copy of English letter from Beth Din of Portuguese Congregation in London to Rev. G. Seixas, on the removal of the dead and their reinterment in Oliver Street.

To the Rev<sup>d</sup>. Mr Gershom Mendes Seixas, Hazan and Neeman of the K K Shearith Israel New York

Sir

Since the time that it pleased Almighty God to deprive us of our much respected and learned Minister Mr Moses Cohen

d'azevedo, a loss that we shall regret so long as we exist, the post of Haham of this Congregation has been vacant and we are appointed Betdin to supply the place, consequently we received, with particular pleasure your kind letter of the 26 January last addressed to our Ab Bet din which was delivered to us by our worthy & respected Friend M<sup>r</sup> Hananel Mendes da Costa, in first place we acknowledge ourselves much flattered by the Compliment your congregation pays us in referring to us for the decision of the matter in question, and having maturely deliberated on the same we proceed to give you our unanimous determination—

Your question is that the *cemetery* \* of your city being situated on a Hill, and the proprietors of the circum-adjacent ground continuing to improve their Lots, by levelling them as much as possible with the Street, you are apprehensive that your neighbours may compel you to reduce the height of said Hill even with the public Street thro' which the corpse and bones in said *cemetery* \* would in a most disrespectful manner be scattered, and exposed, if to obviate such an accident you are permitted to remove the corpse and bones in said *cemetery* \* and reduce it to a levell and reinter them in a more secure place (as you have in some degree done with such corpse as appeared in sight at the time that you levelled that part of the *cemetery* \* which had not as yet been in use) and which you seem to doubt, on account of this circumstance not being mentioned among the three treated on in *Yoreh Deah* \* chapt. 364— You likewise doubt whether you must wait until you are compelled to make ye removal or if you may take your steps in time— We are to pay a proper veneration and respect to the Bones of our Ancestors, and this we show by considering them as if living, and as much as we suppose would be gratifying to them in their existence, is to be done for them after their demise, for which reason when it happens that corpse are buried in places distant from where

their relations lay we are permitted to remove them from their first Sepulchre however Honorable the place may be and inter them near their relations altho' the situation be not so respectable as appears in the Talmud Jerusalemi and repeated in *Yoreh Deah* 364 § 1 \* where the said reason is stated in the following words viz<sup>t</sup> “*that it has been pledged to a man that he be laid next to his fathers*” \* by which it appears that it is not only on account of the three cases mentioned in *Yoreh Deah* \* that it is permitted to remove the corpse from one place to another, those being only stated as general cases lain down by way example as a guide for many others that might occur, be it to prevent disrespect to the corpse, be it to comply with the deceased's desire of lying near his relations, or to convey him to the Holy Land to be buried as appears in *Yoreh Deah* 361 \* or for public convenience to not interrupt the Highway as appears by our *Sanhedrin* 4, 47 \* and repeated in *Yoreh Deah* 361 § 2 \* under the denomination of *a grave that injures the public*. \* If therefore for the aforesaid and other reasons we are permitted to remove the corpse, Shall it not be done under the apprehension of the inconvenience you seem to dread? if we are to remove them for to place them near relations, is not the case you relate the very safety of the corpse being at stake a much greater for so doing? we not only are *unanimous* in our opinion of declaring the *licitation* but we *strongly recommend* the removal as early as possible saying *that zeal must anticipate the command*,\* and if you observe the words of *the notes of Asheri to Talmud Moed Katan* \* repeated *Yoreh Deah* 364 \* you will be convinced that we need not wait till the mischief happens for it says “*if there be suspicion*” \* meaning that if there is reason to dread that an inconveniency may arise it is to be considered as it had really taken place—

Whenever it may be the case of levelling the said *cemetery* \* you must be careful that at the time of removing the corpse



or bones all such relations as were to take *mourning* \* at the time of the burial, do again take *mourning*,\* but only the day on which the corpse or bones are taken out of the graves, and that they make *rending of the garment* \* according to the degree of relationship with the deceased, that is to say Children for Parents all the Cloaths, any other relationship, only one Garment, and that they observe every circumstance which persons in *mourning* \* must keep—the day being over the *mourning* \* ceases the ensuing evening; notwithstanding the corpse may not be buried, they may then sew up the rend in the Cloaths, but it is to be observed that Children who take *mourning* \* for their Parents must do it in an imperfect manner— we recommend particular care that the respective bones of the deceased be kept separate, and not intermixed one with the other, and that every corpse be buried in a separate grave— The Tomb Stones, Monuments, coffins, and every kind of building inside as well as outside of the Sepulchres, may only be made use of to replace them over such corpse from which they were removed and to no other purpose whatever being *prohibited from being used* \* the Earth which covers the Sepulchre or the Corpse notwithstanding that in *Yoreh Deah 385* \* we find some opinion that it is not to be made use of being *prohibited from being used* \* as separated from the Terra Firme, but the major part of *the later authorities* \* teach us that we are to consider it as a part of the Terra firma which is never prohibited.

Having to the best of our abilities stated to you why we not only permit the immediate removal of the corpse but also strongly recommend it we conclude by assuring you that whenever your congregation may think our limited Talents serviceable we shall be happy in receiving their references— we offer our Prayers to Heaven that he may pour down his blessing on your Kehila and every individual thereto belonging, that the ardent wish of your hearts may be fulfilled to the utmost extent, may you as well as all our Brethren the House of Israel enjoy

the approaching *Passover* \* very happy, and may the Almighty through his infinite mercies approximate our restoration and the time in which the words of Ezekiel the prophet may be said to the dead of the House Israel *Behold I will open your graves etc.,\** and also *And I shall set my spirit in you and you shall live etc.\**

We are very respectfully

LONDON 2 Nisan 5551

Sir

6 April, 1791

Your most obed & Humble Servants

Betdin of the Kaal

Kados Saar a

Samayim London

AARON SAA

DAVID HENRIQUES JULIAO

HASDAY ALMOSNINO

[Addressed on the back as follows:]

To the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Gershom Mendes

Seixas—Hazan & Neeman of

the K. K. Sheerit Israel

New York.

[No. 188]

[July 24, 1791. Report of Committee, Gershom Seixas and Ben S. Judah in regard to 1) names of deceased people entitled to escaboth; 2) completion by John Moore of house to be occupied by Hazan and matter of building mortuary chapel; 3) negotiation with Col. Rutgers concerning purchase of land belonging to him and adjoining the Beth Haim; 4) enlargement of street in rear of Beth Haim and prospective award; 5) Return of Congregational papers in charge of Ben S. Judah; 6) matter of lodging hearse.]

[No. 187]

August 26, 1792. Sale of Men's Seats in Synagogue, for 3 Years, Prices Ranging from £1 to £12. The names are given in the numerical order of their seats as follows:

Manuel Myers £12	Simon Nathan	Isaac Moses
Alexander Zuntz	Moses Lazarus £12	Benjn. Hart
Simon Odler	Benjn Gomez	Jacob Hart
Benjamin M. Seixas	Bernd. Judah	Nathan Joseph
Joshua Isaacs	Benj. Seixas	Levy Myers
Joseph Jacobs	Soln. Myers Cohen	Nathan Myers
Aaron Henry	Moses Israel	Isaac Isaacs
Isaac Abrams	A. Myers	Abram Gomez
Joshua Levy	M. Myers	Samson Isaacs
Benj. Seixas	Levy Cohen	Aaron Cohen
Isaac H. Levy £12	S. Hart Junr.	Saml. Abrahams
Moses Gomez	Joseph Pinto	Manl Abrams
Junr. £12	Samson Myers	Joshua Isaacs
I. Chauves £12	Judah Myers	Joseph Jacobs
Isaac Moses £12	Simeon Levy	Jacob De Leon
Abram I. Abrams	Manl Myers	Saml Hart Jr.
Eleazer Levy	Bernd. Hart	Jacob Hart
B. Judah	Jacob Hart	Abram Myers
Benjn. S. Judah	Isaac Abram	Mordecai Myers
Hyam Solomons	Myer Myers	Moses Seixas
Benjn. M. Myers	Ralph Jacobs	Jacob Seixas
Alexr. Harris	Soln. Moses	I. Phillip Gomez
Solomon Netling	M. Moses	Henry Davis
Abram Isaacs	Aaron Levy	Moses N. Castello
Henry Aaron	Saml Lazarus	Elias N. Castello
Ephm Hart	B. Seixas	Solomon Da Crosta
Soln. Simson	Uriah Hend[ricks]	Benjn. Castro
Uriah Hendricks	Benjn. Jacobs	Abm. de Meza
I. Ellis	Moses Gomez	Elias Noah
E. Hart	Benjn. S. Judah	Moses Gomez
Isaac M. Gomez		

[No. 113]

1792 Septbr Proposals by Simeon Levy for Establishing a School for Teaching the hebrew Language—

1<sup>st</sup> Mr Levy will undertake for One year to teach for a half day all the youths under Thirteen-years of Age belonging to the Congregation of Shearith Israel and a proper Room to be furnished him for the purpose, at Eighty pounds p year The money to be paid him Quarterly—

- 2<sup>d</sup> That a Sufficient Quantity of wood be provided for the use of the School during the winter Season—
- 3<sup>d</sup> That every Scholar Shall provide themSelves with Books &c necessary for their Teaching—
- 4<sup>th</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Levy will pay Strict attention to the morals as well as the religious duties of all the youths that Shall be Committed to his Care—
- 5<sup>th</sup> That one or more gentleman of the Board of Trustees may become responsible to M<sup>r</sup> Levy for the money when it becomes due—

NEW YORK 3<sup>d</sup> September 1792—

[No. 53]

1793. Contract between K. K. S. I. and Gershom Seixas in regard to School.

Articles of agreement made and enter'd into this [MS. torn] day of July—one thousand Seven Hundred & Ninety three between the Trustees of the congregation Shearith Israel on the one part and Gershom Seixas the other part Witnesseth

1<sup>st</sup> That the said Gershom Seixas engages to teach any Number of Scholars not exceeding thirty from the age of five years and upwards to read the Hebrew Language and to translate it in English. to provide a Convenient School-room, firewood for the Winter, and to superintend the behaviour of all the boys under thirteen years of age that are seated together on the South-West corner of the Synagogue during divine Service—on the following conditions. Viz<sup>t</sup>—

2<sup>d</sup> That the aforesaid Trustees pay the said Gershom Seixas at the rate of one Hundred & thirty pounds Current money of New York pr Annum, to be paid in equal quarterly payments to commence on the 7<sup>th</sup> of September next ensuing, and to procure Tables, Benches, and a Stove suitable for a School-room—

3<sup>d</sup> That every Scholar find his or her own books &c. to be taught in—

4<sup>th</sup> That no Scholar of whatever description be admitted to the School without a written order from the President of the board of Trustees, and if any Scholar leaves the School, it shall be the duty of the said G. Seixas to note the time and to inform the President of the Trustees—

5<sup>th</sup> The school is to be kept every Sunday Morning from 10 OClock till one P. M. and on all other days in the afternoon, and that each Scholar have at least one lesson daily—

6<sup>th</sup> The School to be open every day in the year (Providential accidents excepted) except the following days viz<sup>t</sup>. Fridays. Saturdays. and such days as may be Roshashanah Kippur Sucoth Pesach. Sebuoth and the day immediately preceding each and every one of those festivals (commonly called Areb Yomtob) one day in Hanuca and all and every one of the fast days and Purim—

7<sup>th</sup> That no Scholar be employ'd either in domestic or menial services under any pretence whatever unless it be to make fire for the use of the Scholars while at School.

8<sup>th</sup> That the said Gershom Seixas shall not exact any extra pay for a Scholar who shall Arrive to be Bar Mitsvah but shall be obliged to teach him every thing requisite according to the capacity of such Scholar—

9<sup>th</sup> That every six weeks two members of the congregation appointed by the Trustees either from their own board or from the Parents or Guardians of the Scholars. Shall visit the school to examine and inspect the conduct and progress of the School, and to make report to the Trustees at their first meeting after such visitation under their proper Signatures—

10<sup>th</sup> That each party Shall have a copy of these rules signed by both parties for their better regulation—

11<sup>th</sup> That three months previous notice be given by either party to the other in case it should be deemed unnecessary or inconvenient to continue the School any longer than one year—

12<sup>th</sup> That the funds of the congregation may not be injured by the said G. Seixas by taking Scholars at any other time of the day than agreed by Contract it is to be understood that the

said Seixas shall not at any time while under contract with the aforesaid Trustees be allowed to teach the Hebrew Language to any but those sent by order of the Trustees belonging to (or under the guardianship or direction of) our society unless the school should consist of thirty Scholars at least being the Number hereby contracted for by the aforesaid Parties—

In Witness whereof the said parties have hereunto subscribed and affixed the seal of the Corporation of the Trustees of the Congregation Shearith Israel in New York—

Witness

ALEX<sup>r</sup>. ZUNTZ. Seal

Pred<sup>t</sup>. of the Trustees K. K. Shearith Israel

GERSHOM SEIXAS

[No. 147]

Subscription to the School under the direction of G. Seixas for One Year from Roshashanah 5554 [September 7, 1793].

We the Subscribers do hereby Agree to pay the Trustees of Kaal Kadosh Shearith Israel at the rate of Four Pounds per Annum to be paid quarterly for each Child that we shall send to the Public School of the Congregation, to be kept by Hazan Gershom Seixas—& that we will with Permission of our Divine Ruler send as many as are affixed to our respective Names, for One Year to Commence from next Roshashanah—

A. Zuntz—	Three Children	3
Jacob Hart—	Two D <sup>o</sup>	2
Isaac Moses—	Two D <sup>o</sup>	2
Benja <sup>a</sup> . Seixas	Six D <sup>o</sup>	6
Simon Nathan	One D <sup>o</sup>	1
Eph <sup>m</sup> . Hart	one D <sup>o</sup>	2
Sol <sup>a</sup> . M. Cohen—	one D <sup>o</sup>	1
Moses Gomez	one D <sup>o</sup>	1
Isaac Abrahams	one D <sup>o</sup>	1
Samuel Lazarus	one D <sup>o</sup>	1
M <sup>rs</sup> . Elizabeth Judah	one D <sup>o</sup>	1

[No. 126]

September 13, 1793; February 2, 1794; and March 8, 1795. Names of Boys and Girls at School of K. K. S. I., partly in handwriting of Rev. Gershom Seixas. Report of School Committee.

Samuel Abrams	Abm. Judah	Zekee Odler
Daniel Chaves	Liepman Lazarus	Abigail Seixas
Abm. Cohen	David Levy	Abm. Seixas
Sally Cohen	Esther Levy	Isaac Seixas
Joseph Etting	Sarah Levy	Moses Seixas
David Hart	Isaac Lopez	Rebekah B. Seixas
Jacob Hart	Matthias Lopez	Soln. Seixas
Joel Hart	Israel Moses	Samson Simson
Judith Hart	Joshua Moses	Abm. Zuntz
Moses Hart	Seixas Nathan	Judah Zuntz
Jacob Henriquez	Mordecai Noah	Moses Zuntz
Raphael Jacobs	Uriah Noah	Uriah Zuntz

[An additional note states that except for the fact that Mr. Moses has sent but one pupil instead of two, the number of pupils is complete according to the contract.]

February 2, 1794. Report of the School Committee appointed by the Trustees of K. K. S. I., consisting of Myer Myers, Isaac Moses and Alexr. Zuntz, tells of the favorable progress of the scholars at the Hebrew School.]

[Nos. 75 & 76]

1793-1795. Synagogue account with Manuel Myers.— Pulling down old building, etc.

[No. 127]

New York, October 22, 1793. Simeon Levy's letter to Benjamin Seixas, Trustee, in reply to demand of Saml. Lazarus for stove and pipe, and asking pay for room rent for School.

[No. 213]

December 9, 1793. Order on Treasurer of Congregation to pay Rev. G. Seixas quarter's salary of £32.10 for keeping Public School.

[No. 212]

[(a) New York, May 6, 1794. Letter in French from Moise Seixas to Benjamin Seixas, president of K. K. S. I., recites that he is "a stranger fleeing from his country because of the misfortunes he had undergone." He regrets his inability to pay £12 demanded by the Congregation for a seat in synagogue, and requests a more modest charge as he is unwilling to occupy a seat he has not paid for.<sup>1</sup>

(b) New York, May 6, 1794. Letter in French from Jacob Seixas to Benjamin Seixas, president of K. K. S. I., stating that he is likewise a refugee and that his means will not permit his paying £6 for the seat assigned him in synagogue. He requests a reduction as otherwise he will not be able to attend service.]

[No. 240]

[June 10, 1794. Letter of Ben. S. Judah to Trustees of K. K. S. I. donating Tabah Cloth, Sepher mantle and Roller with ornaments, with request that annual Escaba be made for his paternal grandfather [Baruch] Judah, his maternal grandfather, Yecutel Jonas and his aunt Gitlah Hays.]

[No. 203]

August 20, 1794. Application of Isaac Levi for place as Shochet of K. K. S. I.

[No. 72]

September 9, 1794. Letter from Bernard S. Judah declining Hatan Bereshith because of his youth.

[No. 209]

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<sup>1</sup> [Moise Seixas was a refugee from the French Revolution.]



[September 10, 1794. Moses Castello's resignation as Clerk of the Trustees of K. K. Shearith Israel, addressed to Ephraim Hart,<sup>1</sup> President.]

[No. 89]

[September 20, 1794. Report of Ephm. Hart and Jacob Hart, Committee on Hebrew School, that a little progress had been made by the pupils since the last visit of the Committee.]

[No. 210]

5555—Report of School. G. Seixas to K. K. S. I.

NEW YORK 10<sup>th</sup> Kislieu 5555 [November 1, 1794]

Sir

Agreeable to the 4<sup>th</sup> Article of the Contract made with the Trustees of the Congregation for keeping a public School under their direction I find it to be my duty to "note the time & to inform the President of the Board whenever any Scholar quits the School."

In consequence of the foregoing rule I now inform you that Raphael Jacobs quitted the School 18<sup>th</sup> Hesvan—Joseph Etting has not been since Sucot—Mordecai & Uriah Noah 23<sup>d</sup> Hesvan so that there is now a vacancy of four since I sent you the List of Scholars under my tuition—

I am Sir

Your Hble Ser't

G. SEIXAS

The President of the Board of Trustees of K. K.  
Shearith Israel—

Addressed on back as follows:

Mr. Ephraim Hart President  
of the Board of Trustees of K. K.  
Shearith Israel

New York.

[No. 137]

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<sup>1</sup> [Ephraim Hart was a prominent merchant in his day. For other references to him, see Index volume of *Publications*.]

## Return of Collections 1795—

Bills Rec<sup>d</sup>. of M<sup>r</sup> Lazarus and Collected by me—2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter  
5555 1795 May 20<sup>th</sup>

From Mer <sup>ss</sup> Isaac Moses (Charln.)	£ 1. 6. 0
Abraham Adams ben Ali	0. 8. 0
Isaac Gomez Jun <sup>r</sup> .	12.13. 0
Abraham Assias	0.11. 6
Hyam Myers	2. 8. 0
Abr <sup>m</sup> . M. Gomez	0. 1. 6
Moses Gomez	4. 4. 6
Jacob Henricus	0.19. 6
Henry Aaron	0.15. 6
Sol <sup>a</sup> . Nurtling	0.16. 0
Miss R. Pinto	0. 1. 0
Mer <sup>ss</sup> . B. Nones	1.12. 0
S Nathan	2. 4. 0
Ab <sup>m</sup> . Gomez (Bordeux)	0. 8. 0
B. Seixas	5. 8. 0
Jacob Hart	3. 3. 6
Judah Myers	0.10. 0
S. A. Myers	0.10. 0
E Hart (Nedabah Mony)	2. 8. 0
Joshua Isaacs's Note for	3.17. 0
Hazan	3. 0. 0
Ab <sup>m</sup> . Myers & Brother	1. 2. 6
I A Isaacs	0. 5. 0
Aaron Levy	2. 6. 0
A Zuntz	7. 0. 0
Joseph Levy	0. 7. 6
Isaac Levy Shochet	0.10. 6
E. Hart	6. 8. 0
	<hr/>
	£65. 5. 6

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3 quarter 55 Mer <sup>ss</sup> . S. M Cohen Dec <sup>d</sup> .	£11.13. 6
E Hart	12.14. 6
Jacob Hart	4.13. 0
Isaac Gomez Da Costa	1. 2. 6
Barnard Gratz	1. 3. 6
B Judah	8.18. 0

I. Cohen (Charleston)	£2.18. 0
M. Lopez	9. 0. 0
Solomon Luzado	0.12. 0
U. Hendriks	4. 8. 0
B. Jacobs	1.15. 0
Moses Lopez	4.10. 0
Isaac Levy	6. 0. 0
M. L. Moses	3. 0. 0
Isaac Moses	19. 2. 0
Joseph Pinto	4. 0. 0
Isaac M Gomez	5.11. 0
B M Gomez	2.18. 6
Miss Esther Gomez	0. 3. 6
M <sup>rs</sup> . Deborah Gomez	0. 3. 6
Mers <sup>s</sup> Ab <sup>m</sup> . Gomez Bordeaux	0. 2. 6
Sam <sup>l</sup> Lazarus (Collected by him)	15.16. 0
	<hr/>
	£120. 5. 0
 Mers <sup>s</sup> Suryu	 £00. 5. 6
Aaron Levy	2. 5. 6
Ab <sup>m</sup> . M Isaacs	1. 3. 6
Sol <sup>n</sup> . Da Crosta	21. 4. 0
Cary Judah	. 2. 6
Raphael Jacobs	1. 6
Benj <sup>n</sup> . Castro	3. 4. 0
Michael Marks	5. 6
Joshua Isaacs	2. 8. 6
Alex <sup>r</sup> . Harris	1. 3. 6
Henry Daniel	0.17. 0
Joseph Nathan	0.13. 0
Isaac Levy Shochet	0. 6. 6
Miss R Pinto	0. 2. 0
Mers <sup>s</sup> Moses Lazarus	3. 0. 6
Simon Odler	7. 0. 0
Hyam Myers	1. 1. 6
Myer Myers Dec <sup>d</sup> .	1.19. 0
Henry Aaron	17. 6
Ab <sup>m</sup> Revira	6.15. 6
Eleazer Levy	1.11. 6
M <sup>rs</sup> . Da Costa	0. 2. 0

Mes <sup>s</sup> . Manl. Myers	£7. 1. 6
Moses Gomez	2.17. 0
Jacob Henricus	10. 0
Ab <sup>m</sup> . M. Gomez	1. 6
A. Zuntz	9. 4. 6
Bern <sup>d</sup> . Judah	9. 7. 6
B. Hart	4.17. 0
Sol <sup>a</sup> . Nurtling	2.13. 0
Isaac Abrahams	5. 7. 0
—— Tobias	6.10. 0
Simons (Virginia)	5. 8. 0
Simon Nathan	5.10. 0
Isaac Moses (Charleston)	3. 4. 6
Aaron Joseph	3.13. 0
Sam <sup>l</sup> . Lazarus	3. 6. 0
E. Noah	4.12. 6
Sol <sup>a</sup> . Simson	5.10. 5
—— Chovis	12. 0. 0
Isaac A. Abrahams	4.10. 0
B Seixas	12. 7. 6
David Philips	0.19. 6
Hazan	0.18. 0
Joshua Levy	4.10. 0
Simeon Levy	4.17. 0
—— Marks	11. 6
Jacob De Leon	3.16. 6
	<hr/>
	£180.14. 0

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 4 Quarter 5555

Mers <sup>s</sup> David Nissan	£0.13. 6
Benj <sup>a</sup> . Jacobs	0. 4. 6
Isaac Levy Shochet	1. 5. 6
Sol <sup>a</sup> . Levy	2. 1. 6
Jos <sup>b</sup> . A. Myers	0. 4. 0
Nathan Joseph	0. 7. 0
	<hr/>
Carried Over	£4.16. 0
Brought forward	£4.16. 0
Mers <sup>s</sup> Joshua Isaacs	0.16. 0
Alexander Harris	0.12. 6
Ab <sup>m</sup> . Joseph	1.12. 0
Henry Daniel	0.12. 6

Miss R Pinto	£0. 1. 0
Mers <sup>s</sup> Solomon Simson	1. 4. 0
Myer Myers dec <sup>d</sup> .	0.15. 0
Benj <sup>n</sup> . Gomez	1.10. 0
Isaac M Gomez	2. 0. 0
Suryu	0. 3. 6
E. Hart	5.16. 6
Jacob Hart	2.16. 6
Isaac Abrahams	1.13. 0
U. Hendriks	1. 3. 6
M. Lopez (for 1 lb. Candelis)	0. 2. 9
Raph <sup>l</sup> . Jacobs	0. 2. 0
Hyam Myers	1. 0. 0
Isaac Gomez Jun <sup>r</sup>	0.12. 0
Jacob Seixas	4.16. 0
Solm M Cohen Dec <sup>d</sup>	3.15. 0
Man <sup>l</sup> . Myers	2.10. 0
Sam <sup>l</sup> . Lazarus	1.18. 6
A Zuntz	8. 0. 0
D <sup>o</sup> for 1 lb wax	0. 2. 9
M Lazarus	3. 0. 0
Sol <sup>n</sup> . Nurtling	0.16. 6
B. Seixas	13.10. 6
D <sup>o</sup> 1/2 lb wax	0. 1. 4
B Hart	1. 6. 0
Isaac Passo	2. 0. 6
Bernard Judah	2.19. 0
Isaac Levy	3. 0. 0
Isaac Moses	6. 9. 0
M L Moses	1.10. 0
S Nathan	3.13. 0
S Odler	1.13. 5
Cohen & Levy Charleston	4. 8. 6
	<hr/>
	£92.18.10

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1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 5556

Mer <sup>ss</sup> Samson Myers 2 Bills	£4. 4. 0
Moses Myers 1 D <sup>o</sup>	8.18. 0
D <sup>o</sup> D <sup>o</sup> 1 D <sup>o</sup>	4. 3. 6
Philip Moses	0.13. 6
Henry Philips	0.10. 0

Cohen & Levy	£2. 2. 6
Ab <sup>m</sup> . Joseph	5. 0. 6
U. Hendriks	3. 0. 0
Raph <sup>l</sup> . Jacobs	0. 6. 0
Joseph R Jacobs	0. 2. 0
Henry Daniel	2.11. 0
Jacob Hart	3.16. 0
Naph <sup>a</sup> . Judah	0.15. 0
E. Hart	15.15. 0
Asher Hart	1. 0. 0
S Hart dec <sup>d</sup> .	6. 6
S Hart Jun <sup>r</sup> .	15. 0
Jo <sup>b</sup> . Levy (S <sup>t</sup> . Thomas)	4.16. 6
<hr/>	
Carried over	£58.15. 6
Brought forward	£58.15. 6
Mess—Suryee	0. 8. 0
Isaac Abrahams	2. 4. 6
Moses Seixas	2.17. 0
Alexa <sup>r</sup> . Harris	1.19. 6
Sam <sup>l</sup> . Lazarus	2. 2. 6
Moses Lazarus	3. 0. 6
Ben <sup>a</sup> . Jacobs	0.17. 0
—— Marks	2.10. 0
Aaron Judah	0.10. 0
B. S. Judah	10. 0. 0
Josiah Ellis	0.18. 6
Sol <sup>a</sup> . Nurtling	1. 5. 0
Cary Judah	0.15. 0
Jacob D <sup>e</sup> Leon	2. 7. 6
Isaac Gomez Jun <sup>r</sup> .	3. 0. 0
B M Gomez	2.11. 6
Isaac M Gomez	2. 1. 0
Joshua Isaacs	2. 0. 0
I. H. Cohen (Philad <sup>a</sup> .)	0. 3. 6
Hyam Marks	1.15. 0
Rojet	1.10. 0
Nathan Joseph	0.13. 6
Simons (Virginia)	4. 0. 0
B. Tores	2. 9. 6
Jos <sup>b</sup> . Pinto	2.14. 6
A. Zuntz	6.10. 0

Eleazer Levy	£0. 2. 0
Aaron Levy	6. 0. 6
Sol <sup>a</sup> . Etting	8. 0. 0
Hyam Abrahams	10.10. 5
S Da Crosta 10 French Guineas	16. 2. 6
Ber <sup>d</sup> . Hart	6. 9. 0
Ber <sup>d</sup> . Judah	2.15. 6
S. Odler	3.10. 0
Isaac Moses	14. 6. 0
M L Moses	1.10. 0
Sol. Moses	1.10. 0
Isaac Levy	4. 4. 0

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£ 194.17. 5

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Hazan paid £3-19-6

Henry Aron

A Henry	4. 3-6	£	8. 3. 0
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& acco <sup>t</sup> .	£	203-	5
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Moses Gomez	6. 4. 6
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I Henricus	2. 9. 6
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Widow M Myers	1. 6. 6
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£ 213. 0.11

1068.17.8

1053 9.3

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15. 8.5

[No. 112]

[September 13, 1795. Call of meeting of electors of K. K. S. I. at the Hebra, to elect a trustee in place of Isaac M. Gomez.]

[No. 129]

[January 27th, 1796. Letter from Simon Nathan, Parnas, to Mr. Harris of the Congregation, asking him to act temporarily as Shochet.]

[No. 17]

[January 27, 1796. Letter from Alexr. Harris expressing his willingness to act as Shochet at \$5 a week.]

[No. 204]

[February 8, 1796. Letter from Levy Phillips of Philadelphia to Simon Nathan and Alexander Zuntz, introducing Mark Solomons, their newly appointed Shochet.]

[No. 215]

[About 1796. Copy of letter and agreement with Mr. Solomons to act as Shochet for K. K. S. I., to supply meat for Congregation, and certify same by seal.]

[No. 262]

[February 2, 1796. Letter to Abraham Pinto from E. Lyte as Clerk of K. K. S. I. in regard to Pinto's insult to the Acting Parnas by his behavior in Synagogue; notifies him of the penalty incurred according to the regulations of the Congregation, *i. e.*, deprivation of Mitzvoth, etc., until concessions approved by the Adjunta are made.]

[No. 108]

[Letter from Mrs. G. Philips, dated April 26, 1796, to the Parnas and Trustees K. K. S. I., in regard to her husband's being punished by imprisonment in his home because of misconduct in Synagogue, stating her distress at having no one to provide her with the necessaries of life and promising in future to keep her husband from attending the Synagogue.]

[No. 119]

[May 4, 1796. Letter of Isaac M. Gomez to Samuel M. Isaacks, Clerk of Shearith Israel, declining appointment by



Adjunto, designating him as one of a Committee to arbitrate in a difference between Messrs. Nathan and Pinto.]

[No. 84]

[June 19, 1796. Letter from Moses Gomez to Trustees of K. K. S. I. to change his seat in synagogue for a less expensive one, owing to his reduced circumstances.]

[No. 202]

1797. Bills of Mark Solomons for £25 for officiating as Shochet.

[No. 286]

1797—Resolution of Trustees of K. K. S. I. to buy ground in Beaver Street in rear of Mill St. Synagogue.

NEW YORK 21<sup>st</sup> March 1797

The Trustees of Shearit Israel having long beheld the great Obstructions of going into the Synagogue through Mill Street have thought it advisable and advantageous to this Society to purchase a Lott of Ground in Beaver Street, in the rear of the Synagogue for £1500—

The Lot being 38 Feet fronting Beaver Street, 60 Feet in the rear of the Synagogue and 9 feet in Depth. The Sum of £900, being wanted on the first day of May next to accomplish that object; They therefore Solicit the aid of their Brethren of this Congregation to Loan for two or three Months as much as they shall please to Subscribe The Trustees hereby binding themselves and their Successors under the Seal of this Corporation to refund the money borrowed as soon as the same can be had on Mortgage, or if the whole amount wanted cannot be obtained to divide such Sum as is in equal proportions to the Sums Subscribed & it is understood that no part of the money, hereby Subscribed, shall be appropriated

in any way towards the Offerings or Debts due to this Corporation

Messieurs Jacob & Bernard Hart were appointed a Committee by the Board of Trustees to receive the respective Sums subscribed on or before the twenty fifth day of April next

We the Subscribers promise to pay unto Messieurs Jacob & Bernard Hart, the respective Sums placed against our Names before the Said twenty fifth day of April next

Manuel [ <i>Mendel</i> *] Myers	fifty pounds
Ephm Hart	one hundred & fifty pounds
Alex Zuntz	Fifty pounds
Jacob Hart	Fifty pounds
Simon Nathan	One Hundred Pounds
Isaac Moses & Sons	One Hundred Pounds
Bern <sup>d</sup> Hart	Fifty pounds
Joshua Isaacs	fifty Pounds

[The rest of the MS. is torn.]

[No. 242]

1797-8. Three bills regarding work on house belonging to the Congregation.

[No. 258]

[Undated letter of Jacob De Leon requesting seat in synagogue for Mrs. De Leon and trustees' assignment thereof.]

[No. 158]

[Account of receipts and disbursements of Congregation Shearith Israel, 1797-1799. Several receipts of minor importance, including receipts of G. Seixas, Hazan, for \$50, additional allowance, November 1798.]

[No. 253]

Three bills in connection with repairs to the Synagogue between 1797 and 1806.

[No. 239a]

[February 25, 1797. Minutes of a meeting of the Trustees of K. K. S. I. Trustees authorized to negotiate with Mr. Beebee, the owner, for two houses and lots on Beaver Street in the rear of the Synagogue for £1500, provided Mr. Brockholst Livingston approves the title.]

March 19, 1797. "The President produced to the Board the seal of the Corporation, it being in their opinion insufficient, it was agreed that a new one should be made and the motto be formed by Mr. Gershom Seixas and Mr. Jacob Hart."

[No. 298]

[May 14, 1797. Application of Rachel Hays to Trustees of K. K. S. I. for a seat in Synagogue, addressed to Alexander Zuntz, President.]

[No. 52]

[June 18, 1797. Resignation of Simon Nathan as Trustee of K. K. S. I.]

[No. 193]

[July 5, 1797. Resignation of Bernard Hart<sup>1</sup> as Trustee and Treasurer of K. K. S. I., New York. Addressed to Alexander Zuntz, President of the Trustees.]

[No. 58]

[1798-1799. Offerings of Gershom Seixas, Mark Solomons, Elias Noah and Mrs. Judith Myers.]

[No. 292]

1798. Bills for work done on the Synagogue.

[No. 288]

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<sup>1</sup> [For other references to Bernard Hart, see Index volume of *Publications*.]

June 25, 1798. Bill of David Whimster, Mason, for work at the Synagogue.

[No. 285]

1798—Receipt to Manuel Myers for attendance and lodging of Israel Israel, Signed by Israel Joel.

Rec<sup>d</sup>. of Mr. Manuel Myers Five Dollars being in full for Attendance, Lodging &c. of Israel Israel Deceased—N York Sept<sup>r</sup> 25<sup>th</sup>. 1798—

ISRAEL JOEL.

[No. 287]

December 19, 1798. Letter of Fanny Lazarus to Trustees of Shearith Israel asking a seat for her son.

[No. 74]

[List of Notes and other Property of the Congregation, 1800-1815. Gives the following names not heretofore mentioned: David Valentine (1802), A. Wertheim (1808), and Aaron Barnit (1811).]

[No 14]

March 10, 1801. Letter of Ephraim Hart refusing to serve as Trustee of K. K. S. I.

[No. 273]

[April 9, 1801. Resolution of Trustees of K. K. S. I. in regard to interment of the mother of Moses Hays<sup>1</sup> of Boston "who died this day." ]

[No. 271B]

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<sup>1</sup> [Moses Michael Hays was a prominent Jew of Boston and a friend of several of the leading characters of the Revolution. See Leon Huhner, *Publications*, No. 11, p. 83; also Samuel Oppenheim, *ibid.*, No. 19.]

April 12, 1801. Letter to Jacob Hart, President K. K. S. I., from Judah Zuntz applying for position of Clerk to the Board.  
[No. 153]

April 25, 1801. Application to Jacob Hart, Sr., President of the Board of Trustees of K. K. S. I., by Isaac M. Gomez for position of Clerk of the Congregation.  
[No. 40]

May 17, 1801. Report of election of Jacob Hart and Isaac H. Levy as Trustees of K. K. S. I.  
[No. 199]

Report of Messrs. Gomez and Judah of statement sent to Mayor. Mess<sup>rs</sup>. Gomez & Judah of the Committee to exhibit a Statement of the property & revenue of y<sup>e</sup> Congregation, Reported, that on the 27<sup>th</sup> Day of Oct<sup>r</sup>. Last the Statement was sworn to by the Committee according to Law—a Copy thereof is on the minutes and that on the 23<sup>d</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup>. an authenticated copy of the same was presented to the Mayor of this City by his *special desire*, and that they now present the original signed by the Honorable De Witt Clinton, Mayor,<sup>1</sup> to be filed by the Clerk among the Archives of the Congregation.

[No. 308]

January 7, 1802. Certificate signed by Gershom Seixas, Jacob Hart and I. B. Kursheedt as to fitness of the Shochet.  
[No. 95]

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<sup>1</sup> [De Witt Clinton was mayor of New York City from 1803 till 1815, with the exception of the years, 1807-8 and 1810-11.]

Resolution in regard to sale of seats. No date.  
[No. 260]

Poll of election, March 7, 1802.  
[No. 247]

Poll of election, May 16, 1802.  
[No. 248]

[August 4, 1802. Minutes of meeting of Trustees of K. K. S. I. to arrange to pay Christopher Halstead \$258, as an act of generosity in payment for money due him from a member of the Congregation.]  
[No. 271A]

Jacob Hart, Treasurer. Bond with list of papers belonging to Trustees. No date. After 1802.

List of Deeds, Papers, &c belonging to the Congregation of Shearith Israel, viz<sup>t</sup>:

A Bundle of Accotts and Receipts

Receipt on parchment from Isaac Moses to Man<sup>l</sup> Myers & Solomon Myers Cohen for Papers &c Cancelled

Certificate of Solomon Simson & Alex<sup>r</sup> Zuntz date 1<sup>st</sup> June 1784

Bond from Lewis, Mordecai, David and Daniel Gomez to Nathan Levy & Jacob Franks

Bond from Lewis Gomez, Jacob Franks & Mord<sup>r</sup> Gomez and Rodrigo Pacheco to Abraham Isaacs, Daniel Gomez & Nathan Levy

Release for Beth Haim from Richard Davis, Attorney, to Noy Willey to Louis, Mordecai & David Gomez

Release for D<sup>o</sup> from Isaac Roosevelt & Wife to the Trustees of the Congregation Shearith Israel

Lease of a Year from Ditto to Ditto

Cornelius Clopper to Cornelius Clopper, Jun<sup>r</sup>, Release for a House & Lot in Mill Street

D<sup>o</sup> to Ditto Lease for a year for Ditto

Cornelius Clopper, Jun<sup>r</sup>, & Catherine his wife to Jacob Franks, Mord<sup>r</sup> Gomez & Rodrigo Pacheco: Release for House & Lott in Mill Street

Ditto to Ditto lease for a Year

Cornelius Clopper, J<sup>r</sup>, and Catherine his wife to Daniel Gomez, Joseph Simson, Jacob Franks & Myer Myers Lease & Release for lott in Mill Street

Edward Livingston's opinion concerning Lands belonging to the Synagogue

Agreement of Trustees with G. Seixas for a School

Subscription list for raising £900 to purchase Houses and lotts in Princess Street

Philip Cochran to Rob<sup>t</sup> Hargrave Deed of Gift

Rob<sup>t</sup> Hargrave to Martha Norton Bond

Ditto — to Ditto — Mortgage for House and lott of Ground in Princess Street Cancelled

Sam<sup>l</sup> Bebee to Elinor Marschalk Bond

Ditto to Ditto Mortgage for House and lott of Ground in Princess Street Cancelled

Sam<sup>l</sup> Bebee to the Trustees of Shearitt Israel Release of Houses & Lotts of Ground Princess Street

Mortgage & Bond n<sup>o</sup> 1 from the Trustees of Shearith Israel to Elizabeth Barton Cancelled

Mortgage & Bond n<sup>o</sup> 2 ditto to Ditto cancelled

Isaac A. Abrahams Note for £1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>15.0

Trustees of Shearith Israel to W<sup>m</sup> Buckle & Michael McLachlan  
Lease Rent £25. 0

D<sup>o</sup> to Miles H. Gibbs D<sup>o</sup> 42

D<sup>o</sup> to Sam<sup>l</sup> Cheeseman D<sup>o</sup> 18

Ditto Ezekiel Williams D<sup>o</sup> 7

D<sup>o</sup> to Henry Willett D<sup>o</sup> 25

Plan of a Lott on the South side of Beaver Street

Contract with G. Seixas, Hazan, date 10 Jan<sup>r</sup> 1802 during good behavior

3 Policies of Houses belonging to the Congregation Received

	Notes Omitted	Ds	Cents
Joshua Isaacs Note Indorsed by Cary Judah		412	6
Simon Nathan		57	25
Benj <sup>a</sup> Seixas		191	69
Moses Gomez		67	50
Alex <sup>r</sup> Zuntz		81	75
D <sup>o</sup> D <sup>o</sup> Due Bill		5	62
Simeon Levys Note		42	62
Isaac A Abrahams D <sup>o</sup>		20	37
Joshua Levy		7	50
David Valentines 2 Notes 53/ each	106	13	25
one for £2			12.50
Geo Pecks Agreement Obligation for Rent			.75
			<hr/> 13.25

W<sup>m</sup> G Miller & Coertland Van Beuren to the Trustees of Shearith  
Israel Release

Sharpe to D<sup>o</sup> D<sup>o</sup>

Form of bond of Benjamin Gomez as Treasurer K. K. S. I.

[No. 79]

1803. Statement of funds of K. K. S. I.

1819. Insurance.

1823. Real Estate.

[No. 272]

1803. Statement of the Funds of the Congregation.

Debts due by the Congregation	Debts due to the Congregation		
<i>Ds</i> <i>cts</i>	<i>Ds</i> <i>cts</i>		
On Several Mort-	Balance of Treasurers		
gages 5000 "	acco <sup>t</sup>	276	16
To Sundry per-	S Nathans Note	57	25
sons as is [MS.	B Seixas Do	191	61
torn] supposed 160 "	Alex <sup>r</sup> Zuntzs D <sup>o</sup>	87	37
	Isaac A Abrahams D <sup>o</sup>	20	37
	Joshua Levy D <sup>o</sup>	7	50
	Simeon Levy D <sup>o</sup>	42	62
	Collectors List of 1 <sup>st</sup>		
	Q <sup>r</sup> 5563	637	
		<hr/>	
		5160	1317 88



Yearly Expenditures		Yearly fixed Income	
	<i>Ds Cts</i>		<i>Ds Cts</i>
Hazans Salary	500	Yearly product of Seats	1125
Shochets Ditto	250	Ground Rent From McLachlan	6 [MS.torn]
Ditto for Lead	5	D <sup>o</sup> from M <sup>rs</sup> Myers	1 [MS.torn]
Shamas Salary	125		
Ditto for wood	33.75	Ditto from E Williams	17
Clerks Salary	70	Ditto from H Willis	52
Wax, Oil, Coals, &c	150	Ditto from [MS. torn]	
Negroes Salary	125	[MS. torn]	
Pensions		House Rent from M <sup>r</sup> Thos Leonard (& Taxes)	225
Isaac Moses Sen <sup>r</sup>	150	Ditto from M <sup>rs</sup> Ket-chum	175
Sarah Israel	150		
Taxes on property	62.50		
Interest on £2000 @ 7 p Cent p <sup>r</sup> Ann.	350		
	<hr/> 1871.25		<hr/> 1807.50

Error Excepted

NEW YORK March 6<sup>th</sup>, 1803

M. MYERS

I. B. KURSHEEDT

[No. 47]

[October 18, 1803. Notice to be read by Rev. G. Seixas in Synagogue regarding applications for position of Shochet become vacant by resignation of Mark Solomons.]

[No. 291]

Memorandum of Marriages & Births between 1804 and 1816, principally in the handwriting of Rev. Gershom Seixas.

Register of Marriages in the City of New York &c—married by G. Seixas.

- Jan<sup>y</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> 1804, Israel B. Kursheedt, to Sarah Abigail Seixas, both of this City
- Jan<sup>y</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> Benj<sup>n</sup> Phillips of Phi<sup>a</sup> to Abigail Seixas of this City—
- Feb<sup>y</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Judah Lyons of Phi<sup>a</sup> to Mary Levy of this City
- March 24<sup>th</sup> Benj<sup>n</sup> Myers to Rachel Hays, of Bedford in this State—
- April 29<sup>th</sup> Jacob S. Gomperts, to Maria Soesman, both of the Colony of Surinam—
- August Simon Myers (Cohen) to Deborah Salomon, both of this City—
- Oct<sup>r</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> Asher S. Levy, to Bella Myers, both of this City—
- Oct<sup>r</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> Jacob Abrahams to the Widow Eitlah Polock, formerly of the kingdom of G— Britain
- 1805
- 26<sup>th</sup> March Joseph Ezekiel Jun<sup>r</sup> to Leah Morena both of Kingston in the Island of Jamaica.
- Mem. wrote a marriage contract in hebrew, & translated it in english for Jacob Levy of North Carolina—& Maria Lopez of New Port R. I. married in Stamford, State of Connecticut, by M<sup>r</sup> Moses Gomez of this City, in the presence of full Minyan—
- 1806
- 25<sup>th</sup> Feb'y wrote a Katuba (explained above) for Samuel Lopez, & Judith Seixas, both of New Port R. I. who were married by Isaac Gomez Jun<sup>r</sup> of this City—in the presence of full Minyan—
- 1<sup>st</sup> April Benjamin Hart of 3 Rivers in Canada to Judith Harriot Hart of this City—
- 4<sup>th</sup> June Joseph Simson to Frances Isaacks both of this City
- 18<sup>th</sup> June Abraham Isaacks to Rebekah Simson both of this City—
- 24<sup>th</sup> June Solomon Moses of this City, to Rachel Gratz of Phi<sup>a</sup>. Married by G. S. in the City of Philadelphia, publicly announced in this City, by their presence in Synagogue the Sabbath following, as Bride & Bridegroom &c &c

1806

13<sup>th</sup> August married Bernard Hart to Rebecca B. Seixas, both of this City—

1807

15<sup>th</sup> April married Aaron Joseph to Frances Jacobs of this City—

1807

May 15<sup>th</sup> circumcised on the eighth day of his birth, a Son, the first born of Joseph Simson & Frances his wife, named him Solomon—the first father & son done by me G. S. *May God ever grant me to fulfil his commandments \**

1807

June 3<sup>d</sup> married Henry Hymens to Catherine Hart *Zeebe bar Isaac, Gittel bat Isaac \** at the house of Eph<sup>m</sup> Hart

1807 4<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> } *Eleazar bar Moses, Sarah bat Jacob Cohen \** married M<sup>r</sup> Eleazar Leon to Miss Sally Cohen  
& 3<sup>d</sup> Hesvan } daught<sup>r</sup>. to M<sup>rs</sup> Charity Cohen  
5568 }

1807 28<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> } Married M<sup>r</sup> Jacob Seixas of France to M<sup>rs</sup> Rachel, daughter of Joshua Levy of this City,  
5568 29<sup>th</sup> } deceased— Witnesses to the Ketuba Simon  
Kislieu & 3<sup>d</sup> } Nathan & Ber<sup>d</sup> Hart *Jacob Mendes Seixas—*  
day Hanuca } *Rachel bat Joshua Levy \**

Nov 9<sup>th</sup> 1808 } Married Moses B. Seixas, of this City to  
& 19<sup>th</sup> Hesvan } Miss Judith, daughter of Jacob Levy Jun<sup>r</sup> of  
5569 } Kingston Jamaica

Nov<sup>r</sup>. 30<sup>th</sup> 1808 } Married, Isaac Seixas Nathan to Miss Sarah  
& 10<sup>th</sup> Kislieu } (daughter of Benj<sup>n</sup>.) Seixas, both of this City  
5569 }

May 17<sup>th</sup> 1809 } Married M<sup>r</sup> Jacob G. Berlin to Miss Rebekah  
& 2<sup>d</sup> of Sivan } (daughter of David Henriques Valentine), the  
5569 } former of Berlin—& the latter of London G. B.

1809

## Memorandum

On Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> May was married in Richmond by Isaac H Judah—my nephew Isaac B. Seixas, to my niece Rebekah Judah, daughter to the late Hillel Judah & my sister Abigail his Wife.  
G. S. Sivan 16<sup>th</sup> 5569

1809 Nov<sup>r</sup> 1<sup>st</sup>      Wednesday married. M<sup>r</sup> Eleazar S Lazarus to Miss Zipporah, daughter of Jacob Hart Sen<sup>r</sup>. both of this City.

<p>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> Iyar 5570 &amp; 8<sup>th</sup> May 1810</p>	}	<p>circumcised a Son of M<sup>r</sup> Ezekiel &amp; M<sup>rs</sup> Frances Hart of Canada—aged 8 months &amp; 2 weeks, &amp; named him Ira James Craig. <i>Hira Jacob Craig. May the Lord, blessed be He, cause him to grow to the study of the Law, to the wedding canopy and to good works.*</i></p>
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<p>5570 Sivan 11<sup>th</sup> &amp; 7<sup>th</sup> June 1810</p>	}	<p>married. M<sup>r</sup> Ab<sup>m</sup> Levy of Amsterdam to Miss Richa (daughter of Ab<sup>m</sup>) Isaacs of this City—</p>
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<p>5570 Sivan 11<sup>th</sup> &amp; 7<sup>th</sup> June 1810</p>	}	<p>married M<sup>r</sup> Tobias Ezekiel of Amsterdam to Miss Hannah (daughter of Ab<sup>m</sup>) Isaacs of this City—</p>
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<p>5570 Tamuz 9<sup>th</sup> &amp; July 11<sup>th</sup> 1810</p>	}	<p>married M<sup>r</sup> Ab<sup>m</sup> L. Phillips of Amsterdam to Miss Sarah (daughter of Ab<sup>m</sup>) Isaacs of this City—</p>
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<p>5572 Tisri 14<sup>th</sup> eve of the Festival of Tabernacles * &amp; 2<sup>d</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1811</p>	}	<p>married M<sup>r</sup> Abr<sup>m</sup> Block native of Germany, now a Citizen of the united States—resident of Virginia, to Miss Frances Isaacs, (daughter of the late Isaiah Isaacs of Virginia—) a native of the State of Virginia—</p>
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Mem— on the 19<sup>th</sup> of Oct<sup>r</sup> left N York for Canada— arrived at Montreal on the 27<sup>th</sup> on the 28<sup>th</sup> circumcised a Son of M<sup>r</sup> Samuel David & called him by the Name of *Eleazar David*—on the 4<sup>th</sup> of Nov at 3 Rivers, circumcised a Son of M<sup>r</sup> Benj<sup>n</sup>. Hart of three Rivers. Named *Aaron Uri*—& immedi-

ately after, circumcised a Son of M<sup>r</sup>. Ezekiel Hart of the same place in M<sup>r</sup> B Hart's House—named him Abraham Kitzinger—& on the 8<sup>th</sup> of Nov<sup>r</sup> I circumcised a Son of M<sup>r</sup> Harry Joseph at Berthier—named him Benjamin (Solomon)—& on the 14<sup>th</sup> of Nov<sup>r</sup> I left Montreal & arrived safe home on the 21<sup>st</sup> of Nov<sup>r</sup>. 1811.

N. B. left all the children in health—& the last was in a good State of healing the others were perfectly healed—

5574 & 1814  
23<sup>d</sup> of March } Married on Wednesday the 2<sup>d</sup> of Nisan M<sup>r</sup> Benjamin Etting (son of David) Hays, of Bedford, to Miss Sarah, daughter of Benjamin Myers of this City,—

5574 & 1814      On Wednesday the 15<sup>th</sup> of Ellul, M<sup>r</sup>. William Warner of this City to Miss Jane Hart of Charleston S. C. *Nathan bar Gershon. Jane Aventa (?) bat Yechiel.\**

5595 & feby  
1<sup>st</sup> 1815 21<sup>st</sup>  
of Sebeth } My Nephew, Sol<sup>a</sup> Seixas, to Miss Esther (daughter of M<sup>r</sup> Isaac) Gomez—all of this City—& on the same day, my daughter Grace, was married to my nephew Manuel Judah in the city of Richmond State of Virginia, by my nephew R. R. Isaac H. Judah the *Ketubah\** was written in hebrew, & translated in english to serve as a Duplicate, to the marriage-contract, by Gershom Seixas of this City, the whole of the above mentioned parties are Natives of the City of New York—

5576, R. Hodesh  
Yiar 1<sup>st</sup> day  
28<sup>th</sup> April 1816 } This day was married at my house by my esteemed friend M<sup>r</sup> Moses Levi Maduro Peixotto my daughter Elkalah to M<sup>r</sup> Benjamin Samuel Solomons of Montreal Canada— Witnesses to the *Ketubah* \* Bernard Hart & M L M Peixotto

Omissions which have taken place in this list owing to the severe indisposition of the Recorder

Marriages not known	}	M <sup>r</sup> Elias Marks to Miss Jane Barham	
		M <sup>r</sup> Mordecai Frois to Miss Cynthia Gomez daughter of Isaac Gomez	
		M <sup>r</sup> Nathan Manuel to Miss Sally Gomez daughter of Isaac Gomez	
<i>not recorded</i>		M <sup>r</sup> Mark Solomons to Miss	[sic] Myers
		Daughter of Benjamin Myers	
By M <sup>r</sup> M. L. M. Peixotto			
July 10 1816		M <sup>r</sup> Alexander Marks of Charleston S. C. to Hetty Hart Daughter of M <sup>r</sup> Jacob Hart	
By d <sup>o</sup>		1817 Samuel Peixotto to Miss Maria Gomez daughter of M <sup>r</sup> Moses Gomez	
By d <sup>o</sup>		1817 Marcus Jacob to Miss Grace Zuntz daughter of M <sup>r</sup> Alex <sup>r</sup> Zuntz	
By d <sup>o</sup>		1817 John Solomon to Miss Julia Levy daughter of Simeon Levy	

[The following is in the handwriting of Rev. J. J. Lyons:]  
Memo of Marriages & Births in time of *Hazan* \* Gershom Seixas Compared 5621 [1861] June with Record Book. Deficiency marked bottom of this page.

Not recorded in Book: Of the children named in Canada page 6 only Adolphus P. Hart registered in Record Book

Not recorded in Congregational Book: Marriage of Elias Marks & Jane Barham in this memo p. 7

Also of Mark Solomon & Miss Myers in this memo p. 7

[No. 851]

[List of names not heretofore mentioned in connection with offerings to Congregation Shearith Israel of New York, between the years 1804 and 1818. These names with a great many others appear on a number of separate MS. reports.]

Abm. Baruch Bar Simcha	I Abrahams, Stranger
Abraham Bar David, a Stranger	Alex. Bar Salomon, German
Bell Abrahams	Myer Angle

Asher from Frankfurt, Dentist	Desparus
Joseph Andrade, son of Haham of France	Ben Elkan
Alex. Barnard	S. Elkan, Jamaica
Abram Barnet	Myer Ellis
Baruch ben Yonah or Mr. Jones, Gibraltar	Nathan Emanuel
Bensonta	Samuel Frays
Abm. Bernard	Jacob Gershon
Myer Bernard	Gittlah Bat Yoseph
Dr. Block	Dacosta Gomez
Simon Block, Jr.	Esther Gomez
Abm. R. Brandon	Roderiques Gomez
Jacob Wm. Brinley	Gomperts, a stranger, relation of Philadelphia Hendricks
Brumson	Joe Gratz
Cavalho, son of <i>Hazan</i> * of Phil- adelphia	Alex. Hart
Baruch Cohen	Ben Hart, Canada
Gedalya Cohen	Judah Hart, Savannah
H. G. Cohen, whipmaker	Moses Hart, Canada
Isaac Cohen, Charleston	Nathan Hart
Isaac Abm. Cohen, Charleston	Reba. Bernd. Hart
Jacob I. Cohen	Sam Hart, son of Ezekiel Hart of Canada
Joe. Cohen	Solomon Hart, Charleston
Judah G. Cohen	Haym Haymans
Cordova, Jamaica	Ben Hays, Sing Sing
Corea, Curaçao	I. Hendricks, Philadelphia
David G. Crasto	Sally Hendricks
I. Darmstadt	Mordecai Cohen Henriques
Charlotte David, widow, Canada	H. Hymens
Samuel David, Canada	Isaac Bar Abram
Mr. Davis & son from London	Michael Isaacs
Moses Davis, Richmond	Steamboat Isaacs
Sol. De Castro	Isaac Israel
M. De Hart	Daniel Jackson
Mordecai De Leon	Levi Jacob
A. De Meza	Jacobs, of Surinam
David De Meza	John Jacobs, of Boston
Jacob De Meza	Marcus Jacobs, London
Raphael De Meza	Israel Joseph, Richmond
	Lazarus Joseph, Richmond

Sol. Joseph, Richmond	Ben. Morange
Abm. Haim Josephs, stranger from London	Mordecai Bar Mordecai John Morss
Joseph Josephs, Richmond	Aaron Moses, London
Dr. Abm. Judah	Hayman Moses
Grace Judah, wife of Manuel Judah, Charleston	Joseph Moses
L. Kopeman	Judah Moses, Charleston
La Para	Reyna Moses
Aaron Lazarus, Richmond	Solomon Moses
Elijah Lazarus	John Myers
Gershon Lazarus	Moses H. Myers, Norfolk
Hayman Levin	Simon Myers
Jacob Levison	Naphtali Bar Menahem, Brother of Trifoot
Levy of Canada	Mrs. Nathan, Canada
Abner Jacobs Levy	Nathan bar Naphtali, a stranger at Mrs. Lopez's
Abner S. Levy	Deborah Nathan
Grace Levy	John Nathan
Hayman Levy (1820)	Levi Nathan
Morris Levy, London	Joseph Nones
Myer Bar Jacob Levy	Ben Nonez, Philadelphia
Walter Levy, London	David Nunes, Philadelphia
Lezare	Myer Odler
Joseph Lindo	Widow Paris
Aaron Lopez, son of David of Charleston	Abm. Cohen Peixotto, Jamaica.
Joe Lopez	Aaron Phillips, Philadelphia
Samuel Lopez	Moses N. Phillips
Isaac Lyon	Moses Pinto
E. Manuel, Charleston	Raphael Bar Natan
Hyman Marks	Isaac Raphael
M. Marks, Richmond	Doctor St. Crosse
Dr. Marx, Charleston	F. M. Salomons
Jacob Meinheimer	Abm. Seigneur
Abm. Mitchell	Joseph Shannon <sup>1</sup>
Samuel Monsana	Sheftall family for an Escaba
Isaac Mendes Monsanto	Simons, stranger from France
Montefero	Daniel Solis

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<sup>1</sup> [Joseph Shannon later migrated to California, and was one of the Jewish pioneers of that State.]



Rabi Solomon with Beard	Samuel Tobias
David Solomons	Tob Tobias
Elkela Solomons, Canada	Tryfoot
Levy Solomons, Albany	Manuel Venor
Wolfe Solomons	Wolfe, a taylor from London
Isaac Soria	Simon Wolfe

[Occasionally when the name of a donor is unknown, a description of him is given, for example, "rabi with beard"; "black man"; "Isaac Bar Abram, small man with red beard", etc.]

[No. 267]

1804-1829. Bills and receipts for keeping Synagogue in repair, for surveying Congregation's property in Oliver Street, for shochet's salary, etc., and warrants for pensions and salaries.

On one slip of paper is the following:

Mr. Cary Judah

Please let the bearer from *Tunis* have five dollars I will furnish you with a warrant when I have some printed

\$5

N PHILLIPS

N Yk. Aug 24. 1815

[No. 297]

Address to the Congregation respecting P<sub>olonies</sub>, T<sub>almud</sub>,  
T<sub>orah</sub>, School<sup>1</sup> read in Synagogue Saturday 21st April  
5504 (1804)

The Congregation are requested by the Trustees to meet to morrow precisely at Ten OClock, to take into consideration the present State of the School of Polonies Talmud Torah. On the second Day of May ensuing the existing Contract with the Teacher, expires.

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<sup>1</sup> [This school was founded with a bequest by a Polish Jew, a member of the Congregation, known as Myer Polonies.]

It will be for them to enquire and consider in what manner the School shall be continued. To Subscribe for the number of Scholars, and to do such other things relative thereto, as may be thought most conducive to so laudable an Establishment. In doing this the Trustees are actuated with a strong desire for its Continuance, convinced that on a Subject the most interesting to the future happiness of their Children, they will readily attend, and give it their most serious Consideration.

It is now two Years since the School has been established, and the numerous advantages that have arisen therefrom must be Obvious to every discerning mind—In order to make your Children truly Virtuous, You must rear them in the strict principles of our Holy religion, and this cannot be efficiently done without they understand what they are saying when addressing the deity. It is thus that religion becomes the soother of all our sorrows and the source of all our real joys, and which will prevade our thoughts in order to answer the design of God in our Creation.

Education, generally speaking, is the first thing which ought to be pursued in life, in order to constitute us rational, how much then is to be expected from having in addition thereto, a compleat and full knowledge of the Hebrew Language, being that in which all our prayers are read. Yet notwithstanding this, it is with regret that it is perceived, few, very few indeed, are concern'd about it.

An Opinion has been express'd by many of our Congregation that Children are incapable of profiting by Instruction 'till their reason is matured, This is conceived to be erroneous in the extreme, for there are instances of children having preferr'd the good to the evil without knowing why they did. They are directed by the Eye to follow the examples before them, hence the necessity of an early and Scrupulous Education— We are admonish'd "to train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it." And this maxim generally holds good. Let us wisely begin early to plant those

seeds from which we wish to reap fruit, let us root up the Weeds and Prune off what might hinder the growth. But these things must be done at a proper time, for if the season be suffer'd to Slip away, much, if not all may be lost.

A Statement will be laid before the Congregation of the Monies received and expended for the Institution, and of the Number of pay and free Scholars that have been admitted. 21st April 1804.

By order of the Board of Trustees

AARON LEVY I B KURSHEEDT NAPHTALI PHILLIPS  
[No. 194]

May 13, 1804. Letter to Aaron Levy announcing his election as Trustee of K. K. S. I.

[No. 149]

List of Offerings for 4th Quarter 5564 (1804), total amount being £139.8.10, made by the following:

Isaac Abrahams Senr	Gompert S Gomperts
Isaac A Abrahams	Hyam Gratz
Jacob Abrahams	Jacobs, Stranger
Moses Abrahams	Ephraim Hart
Samuel Abrahams	Bernard Hart for Self &
Joseph Andrews	A Judah
Aaron Barnard	Jacob Hart Senr
Myer Barnard	Jacob Hart Junr
Abraham Barnet (near Bear	Moses Hart
Market)	Aaron Henry
Simon Myers Cohen	Harmon Hendricks
Ezekiel Odler Cohen & Mother	David Hays
Cohen, Stranger	Solomon M Hays
Joseph Ezekiel	Rachel Hays
Franco	Joshua Isaacs
Moses Gomez	Abm Isaacs
Isaac Gomez Junr	Michael Isaacs
Benjamin Gomez	Isaac A Isaacs
Isaac M Gomez	Sampson M Isaacks

Benjamin Jacobs Senr	Simon Nathan
Joseph Jacobs	Isaac Seixas Nathan
Benjn B Jacobs	Elias Noah
Israel B Jacobs	Solomon Nurtling
Moses Jacobs	Hart Piccard
Benjamin S Judah	Naphtali Phillips
Cary Judah	Joseph Phillips
Naphtali Judah	Benjamin I Phillips
Abraham R Jacobs	A L Phillips
Israel B Kursheedt	Zaligman Phillips
Jacob King	Henry Phillips
Aaron Levy	Rachel Pinto
Asher Levy	Jacques Ruden
Isaac H. Levy	Revd Mr G Seixas
Jacob Levy Junr	Benjamin Seixas
Simeon Levy	Moses B Seixas
Moses Leon	Isaac B Seixas
Judah Lyons	Joseph Simson
Eliezer Lazarus	Samson Simson
Isaac Moses	Mark Solomon
Moses L Moses	Hyam M Salomon
Solomon Moses	Ezekiel Solomons
David Moses	Jacob Solis
Joshua Moses	Aaron Soriah
Isaac Moses Junr	Isaac H Valentine
Judah Myers	Solomon Windsor
Levy Myers	Alexander Zuntz
Mordecai Myers	I Durmstaad
Benjamin Myers	Jacob Levy of Jamaica
Mrs Jessie Myers	Alexander Bernard
Judith H Myers	Hart Solomon
Asher Marx	Jacob Levy

[No. 245]

[November 1804. Letter from Jacob Abrahams, Shochet, to Aaron Levy, President of K. K. S. I., in answer to complaints that he had passed Trepha meat and requesting an investigation.]

[No. 263]

February 25, 1805. Resolution regarding 2nd Burial Ground of K. K. S. I. and for consecration of same.

[No. 70]

Form of election notice of Trustees in time of  
Rev. Gershom Seixas.

The Electors of the Congregation are hereby notified that an Election will be holden on Sunday the 23<sup>d</sup> of June (next) in the Trustee-room to elect two Trustees, (in Class N<sup>o</sup>. 2) to serve for three years, from the 30th of June, in the place of Mess<sup>rs</sup>. W<sup>m</sup> Warner & E S. Lazarus, whose time of Service expire on that Day—

The Electors will meet at 6 OClock in the afternoon to choose two returning officers, who are to superintend the Election conformably to the Act of the Legislature for incorporating religious Societies, when immediately after, the Poll will be opened & closed at 7 OClock of the same day—

[Addressed on back as follows:]

Reverend Gershom Seixas.

[No. 236]

March 19, 1805. Application of Simeon Levy to K. K. S. I. for Matzoth for himself and family of eight during ensuing Pesach.

[No. 167]

1805—Meeting of the Congregation for the Election of 6 persons to serve as Trustees & to obtain a new Charter.

At a Meeting of the Congregation of Shearith Israel the 30th June 1805—agreeably to notice for the purpose of chusing Six persons to act as Trustees to said Congregation & to take out a

Charter of Incorporation agreeably to an Act for that purpose made & provided. Pres<sup>t</sup>:

The Rev <sup>d</sup> Mr G Seixas	Isaac B Seixas	M L Moses
Isaac Moses	Jacob King	Ber <sup>d</sup> . Hart
Naphtali Judah	Sol <sup>a</sup> Nurtling	M B Seixas
Isaac Moses J <sup>r</sup>	Mich <sup>i</sup> Isaacs	Samson Simson
Joseph Simson		
Aaron Levy	Isaac Abrahams	Isaac H Levy
Naphtali Phillips	Alex <sup>r</sup> Zuntz	Joseph Jacobs
		Mord <sup>r</sup> Myers
Ab <sup>m</sup> Jacobs	Judah Zuntz	Isaac M Gomez
Judah Lyons		Isaac A Isaacs
Joseph Andrews	Moses Leon	Jacob Hart Sen
Simon Nathan	Moses Abrahams	I B Kursheedt
Jacques Ruden	Simon Myers Cohen	Ephraim Hart
	vote lost for Infor- mality	

Mess<sup>r</sup> N Phillips & A Levy—officers

The Parnass nominated Mess<sup>rs</sup> Aaron Levy & Naphtali Phillips as Inspectors of this Election and on taking the Question said nomination was carried in the affirmative unanimously.

The Poll closed at Twelve OClock and on Counting the Ballotts the votes stood as follows: for Mr Jacques Ruden 31 votes; Naphtali Judah 33—Bernard Hart 30; I. B. Kursheedt 32; M. L. Moses 31; Benj<sup>n</sup> Seixas 8; Samson Simson 24; Aaron Levy 3; G. S. Gomperts One; Jacob Hart Sen<sup>r</sup> 1—N. Phillips 1—Eph<sup>m</sup> Hart 1; M. Myers 1—whereupon the Inspectors declared that Mess<sup>rs</sup> Naphtali Judah, I. B. Kursheedt, Jacques Ruden, Moses L. Moses, Bernard Hart and Sampson Simson as duly Elected.

[No. 115]

July 8, 1805. Letters to Aaron Levy from Isaac M. Gomez asking for certificate of incorporation for meeting of new Trustees.

[No. 154]

1805—List of offerings made for creating a fund to build a  
Synagogue in Greenwich.

List of Offerings made for Creating a fund for the Purpose of  
Building a Synagogue— Vizt

Naphtali Judah	£12. 4
pd Ephraim Hart	13. 5.6
pd I B Kursheedt	6.16.6
Bernard Hart	5.16
Alex <sup>r</sup> Zuntz	2. 8
Simon Nathan	2.16.6
pd Gershom Seixas	3.13
Benja <sup>n</sup> . Seixas	3. 9
pd Isaac B. Seixas	1.11
pd Abraham Seixas	11
Solomon Seixas	7
Elias Noah	2.15.6
Mordecai Myers	5. 7
Harmon Hendricks	10. 8
pd Moses Abrahams	18
Abraham I Levy	1. 7.6
Isaac A Isaacs	12.6
Judah Zuntz	8
Isaac Valentine	11
pd Barnet Jacobs	4.16
pd David Canter	1.12
pd Aaron Joseph	1. 4
	<hr/>
	£32.17.

I Certify the foregoing to be Correct.

BENJA<sup>N</sup> SEIXAS

Rec<sup>d</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 17 1805 of Isaac M. Gomez the above Bills for  
Collection.

ABRAHAM ISAACS

At a Meeting of the Contributors of the Greenwich Shool fund  
the 8<sup>th</sup> June 1806

Prest Messrs Eph<sup>m</sup> Hart  
Alex<sup>r</sup> Zuntz  
Naph Judah  
M Myers  
Judah Zuntz  
Sol Seixas  
Ab<sup>m</sup> Seixas  
Benj Seixas  
I B Kursheedt  
Ab<sup>m</sup> Isaacs  
Aaron Joseph

On Motion Made & Seconded—Resolved—That a Committee of three be Appointed to Confer with the Board of Trustees as soon as the Hon. Members are Chosen & if the Said Committee can agree with the Trustees—they have full Power to adopt any Plan which may appear best Calculated to Carry the Intention into Effect—of Building a Place of Worship in some Convenient Spot—that the Money Collected be paid into the Hands of M<sup>r</sup> Naphtali Judah—& that the Collector endeavor to Collect the remainder immediately upon the Trustees & the Committee agreeing upon the Subject in Contemplation,—& further in Case the Trustees will not Choose to take up the Business, that then the Committee have full power to provide a proper Place, either to Buy, lease or Hire.

On Motion made & Seconded, Resolved—That the said Committee be chosen by Ballot whereupon the Members present proceeded to Vote, & upon the Ballots being opened—the following Gentlemen were declared duly Elected: Benj<sup>a</sup> Seixas, Harmon Hendricks, Ephraim Hart.

Resolved that in case if one of the Gentlemen elected should prefer to serve or be chosen as Trustee or refuse to serve—the Chairman be fully authorized to fill up said Vacancies out of the Members.



[Original warrants drawn by the President of Shearith Israel Corporation in 1805 and 1806 upon the Treasurer in favor of different persons for salaries and supplies are included in this lot, all being signed by Bernard Hart, President. The payees are Abram Isaacs, Isaac M. Gomez, Jacob Abrahams, Bernard Hart, Eleazer Levy and Gershom Seixas.]

[No. 14]

1806. Poll of election electing Mr. Mordy Myers Trustee in place of Mr. J. Ruden, deceased.

[No. 293]

June 21, 1807. Certificate of election of Isaac Moses as Trustee of K. K. S. I.

[No. 278]

June 21, 1807. Minute of election of Isaac Moses and Moses L. Moses<sup>1</sup> as trustees of K. K. S. I.

[No. 289]

1808. Hebrew poem on the 78th anniversary of the consecration of the Mill Street Synagogue, New York. Author unknown. The poem forms an acrostic Shearith Israel Hazak, *i. e.*, *Shearith Israel be strong.\**

[No. 195]

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<sup>1</sup> [Moses L. Moses was the son of Isaac Moses, a patriot of the Revolution and one of the most active members of the New York Chamber of Commerce. The son was one of the early prize winners at Columbia College. See Index volume of *Publications*, and also *Publications*, No. 21.]

1809. Congregation Account.

[No. 250]

December 27, 1809. Letter of Gershom Seixas to Trustees. Appreciation of vote of thanks for services in connection with building and repairs.

[No. 138]

[Letters from Rev. Gershom Seixas to Isaac M. Gomez, Clerk of the Board of Trustees of the Congregation Shearith Israel, dated New York, Augt. 12th and 23d, 1810, respecting the Sepher Torah claimed by Isaac De Lyon, enclosing a statement to be handed to the Board of Trustees certifying that he had examined the minutes of 22nd Tebet, 1760, showing that the Sepher in question "belonged to the Congregation of Georgia and not to any individual."]

[See *Publications*, No. 21, p. 81.]

[No. 44]

Book of offerings to the Sedaka, and memoranda and reports relating to the same subject.

Among names not heretofore printed are the following:

1811

Aaron Bernard  
Simon Bloch

Soln Cohen of  
Georgetown

Isaac Colker  
David Valentine

1815

Mr. Faures

1819

Abm. Aarons	Louis Jacobs
Angel, Young Englishman	Josephs of Richmond
Aaron Moses Bahaim (Phila)	Minky Judah
Canter a stranger	Saml. Keller
Abm. Collins	Moses Leon
Da Espano	Isaac Levi (London)
Abm. Damasa	Joseph Lopez
Samuel Daniels	Mordecai Bar Baruch
David Bar Aleazer from Bremen	Jacob Morss
Mrs. Delvally	Cosher Myers
De Pas	Nathan a Stranger
Natha Emanuel's wife	Rabi Numpo
Florence	Rabi Phillipson
Morda. Froize	Michl. Phinsy
Leon Hart	Mr. Powers
Joseph L. Hays	Moses Roget
Judah Cohen Henriques	Mr. Rochell of N. Orleans
Moses Cohen Henriques	Mr. Senior of Curraçoa
Israel bar Isaac with the Davis family from London	Sheftal Sheftal
Samson Isaacs	Benedict Solomons
G. Jackson of London	Jacob Soria
Jacobs	Vetzler (a Cohen)
Asher Jacobs (watchmaker)	

On undated slips of paper:

David Asher	Fetz, tall Pedlar	Joseph Samuels
Jacob Benzadon	D. M. Green	Judah Hart Warner
Isaac B. Brandon	M. Myerston	

[No. 160]

[October 1811. Call for meeting of K. K. S. I. in regard to circular issued by Jacob Abrahams, Shochet, concerning reports of his not faithfully following the law, and declaring his desire to have a thorough investigation and his willingness to abide by the decision. Call is signed by I. B. Kursheedt,

Simon Nathan, Naphtali Judah, Jacob Levy, Junr., Moses Gomez, Sampson Simson and Gompert S. Gomperts.]

[See Samuel Oppenheim, *Publications*, No. 25, p. 49.]

[No. 66]

1813. Petition to Legislature from K. K. S. I. on religion and the Free Schools. [Printed form, name of Congregation filled in as well as signatures at end.]

TO THE HONORABLE

THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK,

IN THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY CONVENED.

Seal THE MEMORIAL OF Trustees of the Congregation of  
Sheerith Israel Convened

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,

THAT a Memorial was presented to the honorable, the Legislature, during their last session, signed by the following religious societies, in their corporate capacity, to wit: Wall-street, Brick, Rutger's and Spring-street, Presbyterian; Roman Catholic; First Baptist and Methodist churches, in recommendation of a Report and Draft of a bill of the Commissioners appointed to organize a System of Education, and the distribution of the School Fund: That the said Commissioners, in their said Report and Bill, have advised the proportion of that Fund, belonging to the city and county of New-York, to be distributed to and among the Charity Schools, within the city and county aforesaid, who were disposed to avail themselves of the same, according to the number of scholars taught in each school, as will appear by said Memorial, to which your Memorialists beg leave to refer, and request that the same may be read by your Honorable Body.

Your Memorialists beg leave further to represent to your Honorable Body, that so far from entertaining any disposition of detracting from the merit of the New-York Free School,

they are willing to give it all the praise it has any claim to; they deem it an institution highly laudable in its object in providing for the education of orphans and those unhappy children, whose parents are so lost to every sense of duty as to attach themselves to no religious society; and in this view, your Memorialists are of opinion, that said school is justly entitled to a share of the interest of the School Fund, in common with other Charity Schools in this city; but beyond which, your Memorialists can see no claim it can have to the exclusive patronage of the state bounty.

Your Memorialists beg leave further to repeat in the language of the former Memorial, presented to your Honorable Body, that there are in this city and county a great number of Charity Schools, established by different religious societies, in which poor children are educated under the superintendence and direction of the trustees of each respectively, in such manner and way as is most congenial to the feelings and sentiments of those societies, by which they are governed; which schools are supported principally by the voluntary contributions from individuals, who compose their respective congregations: That the primary object of these societies is to combine religious with literary improvement: That the Legislature are the guardians of the poor children of this state, and as such, will impartially distribute the state Fund: That the policy of rescuing from ignorance, vice and obscurity so many thousands of the rising generation is too liberal and wise to extend its bounty to any speculative system of education, to the exclusion of those poor schools, which are raised and supported on the religious principles of each respective society.

Your Memorialists beg leave further to state, that however they may approve of the New-York Free School in other respects, they conceive it exceptionable on the score of religious instruction. They are informed, that this institution comprises not less than five hundred scholars, consisting principally of orphans or children whose parents are attached to no

religious society; it is evident that a great portion of those children are likely to grow up unacquainted with the principles of any religion: It is in vain to say they may attend the religious worship of their parents, unless they are instructed in their religious principles by some person whose duty it is to perform that office: from irreligious parents they are likely to receive no religious instruction.

Your Memorialists beg leave further to suggest to your Honorable Body, that there are few, if any parents in our community, who have not been educated to some kind of religious worship at some period of their lives, and scarcely any religious society, who have not made provision for the education of its respective poor children, whose religious and literary instruction is governed by trustees chosen from amongst their respective congregations.

Your Memorialists beg leave to remark to your Honorable Body, that the human family are full of attachments of various kinds, of kindred, local habits and situation, and none perhaps more strong than religion, ordained, no doubt, for the wise purposes of promoting a laudable emulation for the advancement of religion, piety and learning.

Your Memorialists beg leave further to represent to your Honorable Body, that they conceive religion the greatest foundation of social happiness—the best pledge of republican institutions—and the greatest security of property, of liberty, and of life—like the dews of heaven, calculated to foster and nourish the germ of genius in the morning of life—what availeth the learning of a Hale, a Newton, or a Locke, without their sense of justice, piety and religion?—what avail courts of justice without just impressions of the solemn obligation of an oath? Of the relative duties which man owes to himself, his family, his country and his God.

Your Memorialists beg leave lastly to state, that they conceive the appropriation of the School Fund to the New-York Free School solely, not only impolitic but unjust, and at

variance with the liberal genius and spirit of our constitution—impolitic, because tending in its effects to encourage parents in habits of indifference to their duties of religion, and at the same time inconsistent with that obligation which every government owes to her citizens, of holding out to them every inducement to cultivate that most important of all objects, and without which, education tends only to form the juvenile mind for art, fraud and deception—unjust because calculated to turn to a particular channel, a bounty intended for the benefit of the poor children of the state at large. It is at variance with the liberal spirit of our constitution, which recognizes no distinction in religious worship.

Your Memorialists beg leave to submit to the consideration of your Honorable Body the prayer of their Memorial, and to take and pursue such steps in the premises as in your wisdom you may deem meet.

Your Memorialists have hereunto affixed the Seal of their Corporation, the Tenth day of January 1813 By order of the Board.

M. GOMEZ  
Clerk.

[No. 226]

March 27, 1814. Report of Judah Zuntz on the Beth Haim.  
[No. 244]

[List of Pensions, etc., of Congregation, 1815, mentions the following new names: H. Pickard, D. Wolf, J. Ezekiel, E. Leone, Widow DeWolf, M. I. Lyon, I. Marks, Isaac Moss, Gabriel Moss and Rabbi Piquis.]

[No. 14]

[June 15, 1815. Warrants. Order to pay Rev. G. Seixas \$187.50. Cary Judah, Treasurer. Same date to Mark Solomons, Simeon Levy, Teacher in Polonies Talmud Torah School, Mrs. Levy and others.]

[No. 20]

August 21, 1815. A begging letter in Hebrew from Joseph ben Joshua Netef Salit. Application from Minutes of the Trustees.

[No. 150]

[Letter dated New York, January 15, 1816, to Bernard Hart, Cary Judah and Solomon Seixas, officers of the Hebra Hased Va-emet, from Gershom Seixas and Ben. S. Judah, executors to the estate of the late Rachel Pinto in regard to the legacy left by Rachel Pinto to the said society.]

[No. 46]

May 27, 1816. Bill of Eldridge and Hannin to K. K. S. I. for mason work.

[No. 25]

[August 16, 1816. Letter addressed to N. Phillips, Parnass of K. K. Shearith Israel, from David G. Seixas, transmitting a list of marriages and circumcisions performed by his father, Rev. G. Seixas, with the suggestion that in future formal records be kept of all Births, Deaths and Marriages happening in the Congregation. For the furtherance of this object he had his family relinquish to the trustees a book containing a list of deaths &c. antedating the list transmitted.]

[No. 54]

January, 1817. Bill for repairing glass at Mr. Seixas'.

[No. 24]

January 16, 1817. Promissory note of the Trustees of K. K. S. I., to Aaron Levy, for \$600. Naphtali Phillips, President.

[No. 21]



[April 10, 1817. Bill of Joseph Jacobs for Matzoth. Bill shows Matzoth delivered to A. Jacobs, Widdo Abrams, Sim. Levy, Hendrick Solomons, Picard, Mrs. Seixas, Mrs. Isaacks, Cairis Woolf and others.]

[No. 23]

1818. New York. (a) Letter by Thos. Hope to Aaron Levy, in regard to drawings for the Ark [of the new Synagogue].

(b) Wash drawing of canopy for Ark.

[No. 257]

1818. Undated letter to Messrs. M. L. Moses and N. Phillips from Abraham H. Cohen, thanking them for inviting him to attend the dedication of the new synagogue at New York.

[No. 229]

1818. Impression from copper plate deposited in corner-stone of second Mill Street Synagogue of Congregation Shearith Israel. [See *Publications*, No. 21, p. 198.]

[No. 227]

## CONDITIONS

### AND

### TERMS

Of leasing the Seats in the Synagogue, on Monday, the 13th day of April, [1818] at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

## I.

The Men's Seats will be leased for *two* years from the first day of Nissan, 5578. At which time half the period of the present lease expires. An allowance will therefore be made of half the amount of the last pre-emption money. The seat

money, as heretofore, will not be deducted from the offerings, both of which must be paid quarterly.

## II.

The men's seats are all rated at £4 per annum each.

## III.

The gallery seats will be sold for two years from the first day of Nissan, 5578, to the highest bidder, with the same allowance as made in relation to the men's seats.

## IV.

Those persons who may be desirous of obtaining seats gratis, must apply to the Trustees through the medium of the Parnass.

## V.

Lessees and purchasers of seats will not be allowed to place a child thereon so as to discommode the next person.

## VI.

Any person taking possession of a seat more than once, unless leased and paid for according to these conditions, or allotted to him by the Parnass, will be charged for the same, with the addition of one fourth the annual rate.

## VII.

Any person desirous of having a lock to his seat, must apply to the Parnass for permission to have the same affixed under the direction of the Shamas, but will not be permitted to take it off; a reasonable compensation however, will be allowed for the same at the expiration of the lease, if required.

VIII.

The pre-emption and purchase-money for the seats must be paid within eight days from the day of sale ; in default thereof the seats will be re-leased, and the difference of pre-emption or purchase-money, if any, will be charged to the first purchaser or lessee.

IX.

No bid under two shillings will be taken.

X.

*Resolved*, by the Trustees of the Congregation, Shearith Israel, that a pre-emption of one-fourth of the annual rate of any unleased seat, shall be charged to any person, being a resident in the city, who shall apply for the same after the day of sale.

*By order of the Trustees,*

MOSES B. SEIXAS, *Clerk.*

*New York, April 8, 1818.*

[No. 38]

1818—Rabbi Dob Pique—Composition in Hebrew sung at Consecration of Synagogue.

[No. 231]

A Consecration Prayer either for the Second Synagogue in Mill Street, 1818, or for the Synagogue in Crosby Street, 1834. Supposed to have been composed by Mr. Jackson,<sup>1</sup> editor of "The Jew". In Hebrew and English. Hebrew transcript missing.

[As Mr. Jackson had affiliated with the Congregation B'nai Jeshurun before 1834, it is more likely that the Prayer was de-

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<sup>1</sup> [Sc Solomon M. Jackson was the brother-in-law of Mordecai M. Noah.]

livered in 1818. The following is an extract from this MS. which is too long to be given in full:]

Ruler of the Universe, bestow thy blessings upon the President, Governors & legislative chambers of our country, be kindly disposed toward the authorities of this city & the People of these United States. Let them always be prevailed upon by feelings of love & charity towards us. Support them in all measures & means which they may adopt for the benefit of their fellow citizens & grant unto them thy heavenly peace so that no enemies either from within or without may be able to destroy the present ties of union & friendship & let them For Ever remain a free & independent Nation.

[No. 11]

August 26, 1818. Letter from Moses B. Seixas, Clerk of K. K. S. I., to Naphtali Judah, informing him that the Trustees had adopted the following resolution:

That the very liberal offerings made toward the building of the new Shool by Messrs. Naphtali Judah, Harmon Hendricks & Abraham Touro entitle them to the lasting gratitude of the Congregation and in order to transmit to posterity the knowledge of so much liberality:

Resolved that during the lives of Naphtali Judah, Harmon Hendricks and Abraham Touro a Misheberach be made for them separately by the Hazan on the *eve of every Kippur and also on the anniversary of the dedication of the New Shool before the taking out of the Seapher* and that after their demise an Escaba shall be made for them on every Kippur evening, on the anniversary of the consecration of the New Shool, on the anniversary of their demise and on the Sabbath succeeding the same.

[No. 317]

Letter of Abm. Touro to K. K. S. I. See Minutes Sept. 15, 1818.

Mr. Moses B. Seixas.

Boston Augt. 31, 1818

Sir,

Your very Esteemed favor of the 27<sup>th</sup> Instant, with the vote of Committees report, together with the resolution of the

Trustees of the Congregation Shearith Israel, was duly received & for the Contents, please to accept the thanks of him who feels grateful for their attention to his name—and have the goodness to tender those Gentlemen, my affectionate regards & may the father of mercy who takes care of us all, be mindful of them & all their undertakings, is the wish & prayer of the writer—with respect your Obt. Hble Srt.

ABB: TOURO.

[Addressed on back as follows:]

Mr. Moses B. Seixas

114 Water St

New York

[No. 55]

About 1818. Debts due from K. K. S. I. to Harmon Hendricks, Abraham Touro and Naphtali Judah.

[No. 269]

November 7, 1818. Eleazer Leon's List of Offerings for his Son.

[No. 161]

1818. Order of service Thanksgiving Day.

[No. 28]

Inventory of the real estate of K. K. S. I. No date.

*Real Estate.*

Synagogue & Lot

House & Lot formerly occupied by Hazan

Ditto Ditto D° by Shamas

School House & Lot

Brick Store & Lot in Mill Street

Brick House & Lot in Beaver Street  
 Frame Ditto D° in D°  
 Brick House & Lot in Chatam Street }  
 Frame D° D° D° } Front of Bet Haim  
 The Bet Haim or Burying Ground  
     Lots on Bancker Street [MS. torn]  
     D° on [MS. torn]  
 Two Lots on East Banke [MS. torn]  
 Two Lots on Milligan Street [MS. torn]  
 [No. 117]

[About 1819.] Communication from Trustees to Congregation Shearith Israel in regard to the opening of Oliver Street affecting their property on Bancker Street and Jews' Alley, and recommending adoption of resolution empowering Trustees to act.

[No. 133]

[1819. Report of Mr. Phillips and Mr. Moses, the Committee on the subject of opening Oliver Street. Assessment by City on Congregation in connection with its land including Gores on Jews' Alley and the new street, \$11956.

The Committee had employed counsel to protest, but had later abandoned objection.

Recommend obtaining opinions as to disposition of property on the new street and in Bancker Street to enable Congregation to pay assessment. Also presented plan of Congregation's property on Chatham Street, the new street and Bancker Street, drawn by Stephen Ludlow.]

[No. 249]

[Resolution authorizing Trustees of K. K. S. I. to sell whole or part of Congregational property on Oliver and Bancker Streets excepting burying ground, to enable Congregation to

pay assessments and other debts. Also gives power to mortgage or lease said property as seems best to them.]

[No. 266]

1819, 1820, 1821—Letters to Rev. Mr. M. L. M. Peixotto announcing election of N. Phillips as Parnas.

[No. 148]

1819, 1820, 1824. Expenses of Congregation on its Real Estate.

[No. 156]

[1819-1821. Pensions paid by K. K. S. I. Mentions pensions to Mrs. Picard, Mrs. Abrahams, Mrs. Anne Seixas and Hart Picard. MS. torn.]

[No. 268]

Offerings of Abm. Touro: Minutes Jany. 24, 1819.

\$500 as a Loan for the time of 10 Years, on condition that the interest on the above five hundred Dollars Shall be accumulated yearly on the Same Space of 10 Years unto a Permanent fund—and the Interest arising from the Same fund Shall then be apopreetated to the interement of poor and Necessatated of Israel—

\$250 on the Same Condition as above, in the Interest arising from the acomulated fund Shall be applied to the Socur of Poor Sick Israelites—

\$250 on the Same Condition that the Interest on the Acomulated fund to be applied to the Education of poor children of Israel in the Holy Land—; [See No. 100, p. 107, putting Abraham Touro and others on list of permanent Escaboth, by Resolution adopted 1823.]

[No. 45]

[March 14, 1819. Matter of request of Aaron Gomez to Trustees asking that remains of Mrs. Miriam Levy, who had died at Wilmington, North Carolina, several years before and whose body had been brought to New York for re-interment, be buried in the Cemetery of the Congregation. Deceased was the wife of Jacob Levy of Wilmington. Resolved to appoint Messrs. Phillips and Judah a Committee to suggest to Mr. Gomez the propriety of burying the remains in Newport "where her father and ancestors lie."

June 20. Report of Committee that remains are to be interred in New York, that Mr. Gomez had paid \$100 for the privilege and that Mrs. Levy's name be registered for an Escaba. See *Publications*, No. 18, p. 111.]

[No. 67]

[1819. Report of M. L. M. Peixotto, E. S. Lazarus and Aaron Levy, committee on baking of Matzoth. Baking to be done by Mr. Hunter in his new patent bakery under the superintendence of two or more persons to be appointed and paid by Trustees; at a cost of \$8.50 a hundred pounds, which is \$2.50 less than the cost of the baking the preceding year by the old process.]

[No. 246]

[Letter from Mrs. Anne Seixas, widow of Rev. Gershom M. Seixas to Naphtali Phillips, dated Philadelphia, November 15, 1819, acknowledging check of \$200, same being two quarters' allowance.]

[No. 41]

December 22, 1819. Service for Thanksgiving Day ordered by the Governor of New York.

[No. 326]



1820. MS. Book for leasing seats in Synagogue.

Among seatholders whose names have not been heretofore published are:

Simon Content	Leonard Gevits	B. Monange
Crommelin	Daniel Goldman	Moses
David Davies	Charles John Hart	B. M. Piles
Rowland Davies	H. Hyman	Alex Ruden
S. Etting	John Jackson	John Solomons
Saml. De Long	Joseph Jackson	Jacob Workman
M. Frois	Jacob Judah Lyons	
Nathan Garrst	Morland Michael	

[No. 162]

1820. Minutes of meeting of Committee of Accounts of K. K. S. I.

[No. 283]

[Feb. 21, 1820. Letter to Aaron Levy,<sup>1</sup> from Trustees of K. K. S. I., containing resolution appointing him together with Mr. Peixotto members of a Committee to confer with the Trustees of the Congregation in regard to repairing tombstones in the Beth Haim.]

[No. 18]

[June 11, 1820. Minutes of meeting of K. K. S. I. Mr. Moses and Mr. Hart appointed a Committee to build retaining wall about Chatham Street burying ground to keep up the ground.

Messrs. Moses, Judah and Zuntz appointed a Committee of Accounts.]

[No. 265]

September 7, 1820. Letter by M. L. Moses to Rev. M. L. M. Peixotto, giving list of offerings to be made on Rosh Hasana on behalf of members of his family.

[No. 295]

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<sup>1</sup> [Aaron Levy was a son of Hayman Levy and son-in-law of Isaac Moses, both of whom were on the patriot side during the Revolution. See Index volume of *Publications*.]

## Inventory of property of K. K. S. I., 1821.

Inventory of the Estate Real & Personal of the Congregation Shearith Israel—with the revenue arising therefrom

A House & lot of ground situated in Mill Street appropriated for the use of the Minister

An Old frame building in the rear of the above for the use of the Sexton

A lot of ground on Mill Street with a New Synagogue thereon

A Brick building the Synagogue adjoining appropriated as a school house residence of the teacher—Congregational meeting room &c

A Frame house & lot of ground on Beaver Street rented for \$200 per annum

A Brick house & lot of ground adjoining the above, at present unoccupied, previously rented for \$200 pr. ann.

A Brick store in Mill Street rented for \$100 pr. ann

A Brick house on Chatham Street adjoining the burying ground rented at \$500 per annum

A Small frame building adjoining the above at \$200 per annum

A Burying ground in the rear of the two last mentioned buildings

## Brought over.

Sundry lots of ground in the rear of the aforesaid burying ground leased until May 1823 at \$414.50 per annum

Two lots of ground on Bank Street, Greenwich, unproductive

Two lots of ground on Milligan Street ditto used as a burying ground

## Personal.

The seats in the Synagogue are supposed to yield \$750 per annum  
Free will offerings are fluctuating so that no precise income can be fixed but is supposed may yield \$750 per annum

The amount of debts due to the Congregation supposed to be good \$500

## School Fund

6 per Cent Stock	1937"73
Grant from the Legislature	1563"78

N PHILLIPS

M L MOSES

CARY JUDAH

DAVID HART

March 14, 1821: Order of service for the 3d anniversary of the Synagogue. 5613-1853: Order of service for the 50th anniversary of the Hebra.

[No. 27]

[Subscription for Moses H. Morpurgo made by the following members of K. K. S. I.: Jh. Lopez Dias, Mrs. E. Brandon, Isaac Brandon, Tobias & Brother, D. Solomons, Judah Zuntz, David Hart, M. M. Noah, M. B. Seixas and Mr. Peixotto.

The total subscription amounts to \$163.50, and Morpurgo's receipt therefor is dated July 26, 1822.]

[No. 65]

[July 24, 1823. Resolution putting Naphtali Judah, Harmon Hendricks, Washington Hendricks and Abraham Touro on the list of permanent Escaboth. See pp. 100-101, 103.]

[No. 100]

[August 12, 1823. Communication to Trustees of K. K. S. I. from Rev. M. L. M. Peixotto in relation to Haham Aaron Judah Corcos, just arrived from Curaçao with a number of letters and certificates, for the purpose of collecting money to ransom his wife and six children held in captivity in Morea by the Greeks. The family had been captured on their way from Constantinople to Smyrna. The unfortunate rabbi had been despoiled of all his property and had since travelled from place to place to obtain the necessary ransom, two-thirds of which he had succeeded in securing.]

[No. 99]

Resolution of the Board on wearing Taleth, Harmon Hendricks Parnass, [1824-1827].

The following is published for the information of the Congregation.

At a meeting of the trustees of the Congregation Shearith Israel.

The Committee appointed by a resolution of the board of trustees to report on the subject of persons not wearing the *Talet* in Synagogue, have had the same under their deliberate consideration; and after a careful examination of our Constitution and bye-laws, they cannot find any law relating to this particular subject nor can they ascertain that the Wearing of the *Talet* is a law of imperative religious obligation, but in as much, as it has always been strictly observed in this Congregation from its first establishment the committee cannot but view a departure from it as an innovation, which if permitted to pass unnoticed, may lead to other deviations, and ultimately to the subversion of all the venerable and established usages of this Congregation.

In order therefore, and as far as lies in the power of the trustees to remedy such evils, the Committee submit the expediency of a law to the following effect. That no person, either a member of this Congregation, or otherwise, who is in our Holy place of Worship, Wilfully neglecting to Wear a *Talet* at the time and period it is the Custom so to do, Shall be entitled to any Mitsvot whatsoever.

All which is respectfully Submitted.

Signed M. L. MOSES  
DAVID HART Committee

On motion the report was accepted, and in conformity with the same, the following resolution was adopted.

Resolved that the acting Parnas be directed not to call to the reading of the *Seapher*, or give any *Mitsvot* in Synagogue to any person Wilfully neglecting to Wear the same at the time and periods it is the Custom so to do, or to be allowed to make any Offering, Until he shall have for three successive Sabbaths Conformed to the Custom of Wearing the *Taleth* in Synagogue.

By order of the board of trustees

[No. 98]

H. HENDRICKS <sup>1</sup> President

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<sup>1</sup> [For other references to Harmon Hendricks and members of his family, see Index volume of *Publications*.]





SYNAGOGUE OF CONGREGATION B'NAI JESHURUN OF NEW YORK,  
 CONSECRATED IN 1827.

[May 9, 1824. Letter from Bernard Hart, Clerk of K. K. S. I., to Rev. Mr. Peixotto to examine Mark Solomons as to his qualifications as Shochet, in conjunction with Rabbi A. H. Cohen and Mr. G. S. Gomperts.]

[No. 300]

[May 8, 1825. Letter of Trustees to Rev. M. L. M. Peixotto notifying him of the resignation of Haym M. Salomon<sup>1</sup> as Trustee.]

[No. 159]

[September, 1825. Opinion on the law relating to Cohanim, prepared at the instance of H. Hendricks, Parnass, by Rev. M. L. M. Peixotto, Abraham H. Cohen (son of Hazan Cohen of Philadelphia) and Joseph Samuels. The report is apparently based in part on an elaborate opinion by one C. Nussbaum which forms a separate document.]

[No. 96]

[January 15, 1826. Letter of Bernard Hart, Clerk, to M. L. M. Peixotto, to place name of Mrs. Brandley Isaacs on the list of perpetual Escaboth.]

[No. 151]

[June 27, 1827. Letter to H. Hendricks from John I. Hart as Parnass of K. K. Bnai Jeshurun,<sup>2</sup> New York, requesting

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<sup>1</sup> [Haym M. Salomon was the son of Haym Salomon, the friend and co-worker with Robert Morris in connection with the finances of the American Revolution. See p. 466 *et seq.*]

<sup>2</sup> [The K. K. Bnai Jeshurun was the second Jewish Congregation established in New York City. It was made up of Dutch, Polish and English Jews who desired to worship according to their own customs as distinguished from the Portuguese or Sephardic. It was organized about 1825 and is still in existence, having recently erected a new edifice on West 88th Street.]

loan of five scrolls and seven sets of ornaments for the consecration of its Synagogue.

Also a letter, dated June 28, 1827, by H. Hendricks to Rev. M. L. M. Peixotto, asking him to arrange for the delivery and return of the scrolls and ornaments pursuant to the foregoing request.]

[No. 198]

August 19, 1827. Fragment of report to Trustees of K. K. S. I., from Simon and Moses Content concerning Mr. Van Gelden.

[No. 19]

Dec. 12, 1828. Notice of meeting of Congregation, regarding application of Rev. I. B. Seixas offering himself as Hazan.

[No. 39]

Names of women in the Congregation in the days of the  
Rev. I. B. Seixas, 1828-1839.

Single, including children: Charlotte Abrahams; Hannah Abrahams; Leah Abrahams; Miss Alexander; Hadassa Barnet; Miss Berlin; Adeline Cardozo; Hetty Cardozo; Judith Cardozo; Lavinia Abigail Cardozo; Sarah Cardozo; Zipporah Cardozo; Julia Castello; Catherine, Eleanor, Eugenia, Miriam, Rebecca, Sarah and Zipporah Cohen, daughters of Jacob I. Cohen; daughter (or daughters) of Philip I. Cohen<sup>1</sup>; Charlotte Gomez; Hetty Mirriam, daughter of Aaron L. Gomez; daughter or daughters of L. Goslin<sup>1</sup>; Abigail, Grace Rosa and Zipporah Hart, daughters of Bernard Hart; Reinah Hart; Catherine Hays; Frances Hendricks, Lebana and Rosalie Hendricks, daughters of Harmon Hendricks; daughter or daughters of Solomon Hendricks<sup>1</sup>; daughter of David Henriques; daughter of Joseph Henriques; daughter of Moses Henriques; Grace and Hannah Isaacs, sisters of S. I. Isaacs; daughter of Angel Jacobs; Frances Jacobs; Georgiana Jacobs; Maria Jacobs; Sarah Jacobs; L. Joachimsen; daughter of Andrew Jones; Gertrude Joseph, daughter of S. L. Joseph; Amelia Judah, Belhah

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<sup>1</sup> [Blank space in MS.]



Judah; Celestina Judah; Hannah Judah; Minky Judah; Rebecca Judah; Simah Judah; Zepy Judah; Miriam Judah; Louisa Judah; Hetty and Sarah Kauphman; Rachel Kauphman; Ann Augusta Kursheedt; Jeanette Kursheedt; Miriam Kursheedt; Rebecca Kursheedt; Ella Lazarus; Fanny Lazarus; Miriam Lazarus; Sarah Levy; Deborah Lopez; Grace Lopez; Judith Marache; Rachel Moses; Rebecca Moses; Reyna Moses; Sarah Moses; Adelia Myers, daughter of Simon Myers; Clara, Elvira, Esther, Grace, Miriam, Myrtila, Rebecca and Rowena Nathan, daughters of Seixas Nathan; Grace Peixotto; Rachel Peixotto; Rebecca Peixotto; Catherine, Dinah, Jane and Rachel Phillips, daughters of David Phillips; Ella, Josephine, Lavinia, Rachel, Rebecca, Sarah and Zipporah, daughters of Naphtali Phillips; Debby, Rachel and Sarah, daughters of Haym M. Salomon; Leah Seixas, daughter of Benjamin Mendez Seixas; Sarah and Zipporah Seixas, daughters of Hyman L. Seixas; Abigail, Emily, Esther and Zipporah Seixas, daughters of Moses B. Seixas; Abigail, Belhah and Grace Seixas, daughters of Moses Mendez Seixas of Newport; Rebecca Seixas; Abigail, Rachel and Zipporah Seixas, daughters of Solomon B. Seixas; daughter of Joseph Simpson<sup>1</sup>; daughter of Mrs. Solis<sup>1</sup>; Charity Solis; Rebecca Solomons; daughter or daughters of Aaron Soria<sup>1</sup>; daughter of Tobias I. Tobias<sup>1</sup>; Kitty Valentine; Ellen Zuntz.

Wives: Gitla (Mrs. Jacob) Abrahams; Sarah Miriam (Mrs. Abraham) Baiz; Gitlah (Mrs. J.) Benjamin; Rachel (Mrs. Joseph Phanseco) Brandon; Ellen (Mrs. Michael N.) Cardozo; Mrs. Casper Cohen; Eleanor (Mrs. Philip I.) Cohen; Grace (Mrs. Jacob I.) Cohen; Judith (Mrs. Myer D.) Cohen; Rebecca (Mrs. Jacob M.) Cohen; Sophica (Mrs. Lewis I.) Cohen; Sarah (Mrs. Jacob) Delmar; Sarah (Mrs. G.) Dunckee; Sarah (Mrs. Nathan) Emanuel; Mrs. L. Feuchtwanger; Bilhah (Mrs. I.) Fishblatt; Hadasa (Mrs. William) Florance; Rebecca (Mrs. Benjamin) Florance; Gracilah (Mrs. P.) Freedman; Celestina (Mrs. Moses M.) Goldsmith; Esther (Mrs. Aaron L.) Gomez; Henrietta (Mrs. L.) Goslin; Leah (Mrs. Henry) Gutman; Leah (Mrs. Hy.) Guttman; Esther (Mrs. Levy) Hart; Hanah (Mrs. B. W.) Hart; Mrs. Joseph Hart; Rebecca (Mrs. Bernard) Hart; Eliza (Mrs. Solomon) Hendricks; Fanny (Mrs. Harmon) Hendricks; Fanny (Mrs. Uriah) Hendricks; Hannah (Mrs. Henry) Hendricks; Rachel (Mrs. M. M.) Hendricks; Abigail (Mrs. Ebenezer) Henriques; Abigail (Mrs. George) Henriques; Abigail

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<sup>1</sup> [Blank space in MS.]

(Mrs. Joseph) Henriques; Mrs. Abm. D. Henriques; Esther (Mrs. David) Henriques; Esther (Mrs. Jacob M.) Henriques; Mrs. Moses Henriques; Sarah (Mrs. Emanuel) Henriques; Sarah (Mrs. Moses J.) Henriques; Sarah Louisa (Mrs. John D.) Jackson; Rachel (Mrs. Angel) Jacobs; Haya Diana Joachimsen; Elkahlah (Mrs. Solomon I.) Isaacs; Gitla (Mrs. Samson M.) Isaacs; Hannah (Mrs. Jonas) Isaacs; Miriam (Mrs. Andrew) Jones; Emily (Mrs. Sol. I.) Joseph; Fanny (Mrs. Jos. L.) Joseph; Esther (Mrs. Naphtali) Judah; Hannah (Mrs. Isaac M.) Kursheedt; Sarah (Mrs. I. B.) Kursheedt; Zipporah (Mrs. C. S.) Lazarus; Gitlah (Mrs. Adolphus) Lessah; Judith (Mrs. Jacob) Levy; Richa (Mrs. Aaron) Levy; Esther Martin; Ribka (Mrs. Morland) Micholl; Rachel (Mrs. Samuel) Morris; Catherine (Mrs. Mont. M.) Moses; Mrs. Simon Myer; Rachel (Mrs. Benjamin) Myers; Sarah (Mrs. Judah) Myers<sup>1</sup>; Sarah (Mrs. Benjamin) Naar; Emily Grace (Mrs. Benjamin) Nathan; Rebecca (Mrs. M. M.) Noah; Mrs. Wm. Noah; Catherine *Kilah*\* (Mrs. Aaron B.) Nones; Hava (Mrs. Joseph B.) Nones; Lunah (Mrs. Ralph) Peixotto; Rachel (Mrs. Daniel) Peixotto; Judith (Mrs. Gus. I.) Pesoa; Esther (Mrs. Naphtali) Phillips; Gitlah (Mrs. David) Phillips; Rebecca (Mrs. Moses S.) Phillips; Mrs. Alexander Polache; Eliza (Mrs. Mordeca) Polache; Esther (Mrs. Isaac) Remas; Benvenida (Mrs. Leon M.) Ritterband; Mrs. Moses Rosenberg; Fanny (Mrs. Jacques) Ruden; Hendla (Mrs. Hyam M.) Salomon; Sifrah (Mrs. Joseph) Samuels; Esther (Mrs. M. S.) Segre; Abigail (Mrs. Hyman L.) Seixas; Esther (Mrs. Solomon) Seixas; Hortensia (Mrs. Jacob L.) Seixas; Judith (Mrs. M. B.) Seixas; Rebecca (Mrs. I. B.) Seixas; Julia (Mrs. Joseph) Shannon; Judith (Mrs. B. L.) Simpson; Judith (Mrs. M. L.) Simpson; Fanny (Mrs. Joseph) Simson; Miriam (Mrs. Solomon) Soher; Gertrude (Mrs. Jacob) Solomons; Mrs. Aaron Soria; Esther (Mrs. Isaac) Soria; Zipporah (Mrs. Joseph) Soria; Mrs. Samuel Souza; Harriet (Mrs. Samuel) Tobias; Mrs. Tobias Tobias; Jane (Mrs. William) Warner; Rachel (Mrs. Joel) Wolfe; Rachel wife of Samson bar Abraham; Simcha wife of Natan bar Baruch.

Widows: Rachel Abendenon; Mrs. Alexander; Sarah Andrews (Sarah bat Haim Moshe); Rachel Castello; Leah Morena Ezekiel (Leah bat Jacob); Abigail Gomez (Abigail de Isaac Gomez); Charlotte Gomez; Sarah Gompertz; Frances Hart; Leah (Mrs. Jacob) Hart; Rachel Hays (Rachel bat Jacob); Rebecca

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<sup>1</sup> [Not clear in the MS. Perhaps she is the daughter of Judah Myers.]

Ann (Mrs. Joseph) Hays; Frumette Hendricks (wife of Menachem bar Uri); Rebecca Hendricks (Ribka de Aaron Lopez); Mrs. Joachimsen; Frances Joseph; Goody Joseph (Gertrude bat Eliezer); Betsy S. S. (Elishabang) Judah; Catherine (Mrs. Bernard) Judah (Gitloch bat Moshe Uri); Elizabeth (Mrs. Samuel) Judah (Bilhah bat Paretz aCohen); Rachel (Mrs. Aaron) Judah (Rachel bat Samuel); Esther Leon (Esther bat Isaac); Judith Levy; Sarah Lopez; Esther Moses (Esther bat Jonah); Abigail Phillips (Abigail Mendes Seixas); Rachel (Mrs. Jacques) Ruden; Sarah Russle; Sifiah Samuels (Jos. Samuels—Sifiah bat Shelomoh); Nancy Seixas (Hannah Mendes Seixas); Catherine Solomons; Hetty Solomon (Gitlah bat Menachem); Selina Solomons (Orah Simchah Mendes Seixas); Charity Solis; Rachel Zuntz.

[No. 197]

1829. Ground plan of Mill Street Synagogue and Surroundings in 1829, prepared by Jonas N. Phillips in 1871.

The Synagogue was Built of Stone & Brick, Outside Plastered School House, Brick.

Other Buildings Same.

From my Recollection from 1829 when I was 13 years Old, this Plan is Substantially Correct.

JONAS N. PHILLIPS

24th Sivan 5631

June 13th 1871

Indorsed as follows:

Rev. J. J. Lyons.

With respects of J. N. Phillips

[No. 60]

June 23, 1830. Circular by Committee of the Hebra Hased Va Amet, appealing to the women of the Congregation Shearith Israel to organize a woman's Hebra for the purpose of ministering to the sick and dying and attending to the dead of their own sex.

[No. 190]

1832. Conditions and terms of leasing seats at K. K. S. I.  
[No. 290]

[Request by eight Electors of K. K. S. I. to call meeting to amend constitution. Call for meeting, pursuant to above, for July 28, 1833. Solomon Isaacs, President.]  
[No. 22]

July 11, 1833. Notice of motion to change Constitution of Congregation Shearith Israel.  
[No. 254]

[October 18, 1833. Letter to Rev. I. B. Seixas with resolution of Board prohibiting entry into synagogue by way of the Trustee Building.]  
[No. 274]

Papers relating to the Female Hebrew Benevolent Society. Bills, bequests, &c., &c., 1834-1854.  
[No. 68]

[October 27th, 1836. Resolution of the Trustees of K. K. S. I. directing the Hazan not to announce publicly offerings in Synagogue on behalf of persons other than the Hazan and Shamas.]  
[No. 103]

List of Persons in Arrears for Offerings, 5599 [1839].

Jacob Delamotta, Savannah  
Jacob Delapina  
M. Deyoung  
H. Goldburg  
Eme. M. Hart  
Doctor Joel Hart

Sol Hart Senr  
Jacob Bar Moshey  
L. Joachimsen  
Alfred Judah  
Edward Judah  
Samuels Liverpool

Aaron Levy	M. Segree
Hart Levy	Bn. S. Seixas
Lazarus Martin	Bn. Seixas Vandam St
Bn Meyers	Isaac Seixas
G. I. Pessoa	Soln. Seixas
L. Ritterband	Isaac Soria
R. Schöyer	

[No. 277]

1840. Memo. by Rev. J. J. Lyons in regard to interest of K. K. S. I. in Damascus persecution.

[No. 221]

[Letters and notices from Clerk of K. K. S. I., to Rev. J. J. Lyons, 1840-1861, informing him of election of the various officers and trustees during that period.]

[No. 315]

# Happenings in Congregation Shearith Israel between 1840 and 1864.

Marriages	164
Births, Male	365
Female	341
Deaths, Male	266
Female	235
Bar Mitzvahs	143

[No. 309]

1843. Exercises at Polonies Talmud Torah School.

[No. 299]

[1843. Opinion of Rev. J. J. Lyons at request, dated January 23, 1843, of Benjamin Nathan and Jacob L. Seixas, a Committee of the Board of Trustees appointed for the purpose, on the subject of the ceremony to be performed at the funeral of persons married contrary to the religious law.

Mr. Lyons states that intermarriage between Israelites and other races worshipping strange gods has been forbidden by God from earliest times, and that the prohibition is still in force. The object of the law is to prevent the following of other religions. Expulsion from the congregation is the penalty for marriage in defiance of Jewish laws and customs. The transgressor is regarded as having severed all connection with his brethren in faith and no ceremony or mourning is to be used in connection with his death.

[March 1, 1843. Resolution of the Trustees of K. K. S. I. in regard to persons married contrary to Jewish law, prohibiting, in their case, the funeral ceremonies usually performed at the burying ground.]

[Nos. 101 and 102]

[January 22, 1843. Appointment of Mr. I. B. Kursheedt, Rev. Mr. Lyons and the President of the Congregation, a Committee to superintend the baking of Matzoth.]

[No. 93]

[June 6, 1844. Letter from J. J. Lyons to Trustees of K. K. S. I., strongly recommending and advocating the movement which had been started to have a permanent Minyan; a proposed subscription list, for that purpose, dated June 4, 1844, contains the names, S. I. Joseph \$15 and I. L. Joseph \$10.]

[No. 189]

1845. Questions by Trustees to Hazan regarding the rights of Cohanim.

[No. 276]

[October 1845. Correspondence of Rev. J. J. Lyons with Mr. S. I. Joseph, Parnass of K. K. S. I., as to priority among the members of the Board of Trustees.]

[No. 318]

December 14, 1845. Permission of Parnas S. I. Joseph to Hazan Lyons to perform the marriage ceremony of Mr. Hart Levy's daughter, previously married by an alderman.

[No. 92]

Memoranda in handwriting of Rev. J. J. Lyons made about 1846, giving the customs adopted by the Congregation in connection with anniversaries and special occasions.

Among others is the following prayer for the Government:

The President and Vice President of the United States of America. The Governor The Lieutenant Governor and the People of the State represented in Senate and Assembly and the Magistrates of this city.

During Session of Congress the President and Vice President of the Union. The Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled. The Governor, the Lieutenant Governor and the People of this State represented in Senate and Assembly and the magistrates of this City.

[No. 208]

Resolution presented by K. K. S. I. to Sir Moses Montefiore, regarding his visit to the court of Russia.

*Kahl Kadosh Shearith Israel \**

—NEW YORK 26 Ellul 5606. [Sept. 17, 1846].

At a Meeting of the Trustees of the Congregation

*Shearith Israel \**

the following Preamble and Resolutions were Unanimously adopted:

*Whereas Sir Moses Montefiore*  
by his eminent services to the Jewish People merits their universal Respect and Esteem Therefore the President and Trustees of the Sephardim Congregation *Shearith Israel \** of the City of New York in token thereof have Unanimously adopted the following *Resolutions*:

*Resolved* that the President and Trustees of the Congregation *Shearith Israel \** of the city of New York are deeply impressed

with the high considerations which prompted the humane mission of *Sir Moses Montefiore* to the Court of *Russia* and they unite in Prayer with their Brethren that it will result in moving the heart of that Great Sovereign to a better appreciation of the *Principles of Humanity and Justice*.

*Resolved* that they have viewed with no ordinary emotions of *Pride* his many and various efforts constantly made to meliorate the hard condition of his Co-Religionists in Europe and Asia and his readiness and alacrity to risk his life and sacrifice his ease and Repose and preserving in every stage of his philanthropic career a *Heart* eminently Jewish withal catholic in its Sentiments and Sympathies and a fame which is now Historically the property of the whole Jewish People.

*Resolved* that the unwavering Steadiness with which the British Jews have progressed towards the assertion of their rights and privileges as British Subjects excites our Admiration and will exercise a powerful influence on all *Nations* in all future time and diffuse widely the Principles Of Civil and Religious *Liberty*.

In Behalf and by Order of the  
Trustees of the Congregation

*Sheliach Zibbur* \*

JACQUES J. LYONS

President of the  
Board of Trustees of  
the Congregation

SAMUEL LAZARUS

Attest

NAPHTALI PHILLIPS Clerk.—

[No. 59]

Irish Relief Meeting.

New York 5 Adar 5607 [February 21, 1847].

At a meeting of the trustees of the  
Cong<sup>n</sup> Shearith Israel

Resolved that it is proper the members of the Cong<sup>n</sup> should have an Opportunity as a body of Contributing toward the relief of the people of Ireland suffering from the



severest dispensation of a wise Providence, and that the Hazan be requested to deliver an address in the Synagogue on thursday the 4<sup>th</sup> of March ensuing at Seven OClock in the evening, and that the Congregation be notified of the same, and that a Collection in aid of the benevolent Object Will be taken up.

Extract from the Minutes

N. PHILLIPS Clk.

Notice to Cong.—Irish Relief Meeting.

The congregation are informed that a Meeting of the Members, and others disposed to attend, will be held at this place on the ensuing Monday evening at Seven OClock With a View of Contributing towards the relief of the famishing people of Ireland.

The trustees of the Cong<sup>n</sup> have invited several gentlemen to address the Meeting on the Occasion.

[See Leon Hubner, "The Jews of Ireland," *Transactions of the Jewish Historical Society of England*, Vol. 5, p. 226.]

[No. 42]

1847—\$175 collected for poor in Ireland.<sup>1</sup>

Received, New York March 15<sup>th</sup> 1847, from the Revd. J. J. Lyons One Hundred and seventy five dollars Collected in the Crosby St. Synagogue for the relief of the Poor in Ireland \$175—

M. VAN SCHANK

Treasurer

Com Room Prime's Buildings

54 Wall St

[No. 196]

[July 17, 1847. Organization of Board of Trustees of K. K. S. I., Samuel Lazarus, Parnas, and Benjn. S. Hart, Segan, and the following trustees in order of precedence, Sol. I. Joseph, Jacob L. Seixas, Mordecai M. Noah and Isaac Phillips.]

[No. 94]

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<sup>1</sup> [See *The Occident*, Vol. 5, No. 1.]

[Resolution of Trustees of K. K. S. I. in regard to opening the Synagogue for service on the afternoon of Thanksgiving Day, November 25, 1848, in compliance with the recommendation of the Governor of the State, the order of service being left to the Hazan (Rev. J. J. Lyons), to arrange.]

[No. 43]

[1850-1852. Election notices, and notice, 1850, of election of Solomon I. Isaacs as Parnass and T. I. Tobias as Segan.]

[No. 294]

[February 10, 1850. Resolution of Trustees of K. K. S. I. to respond to call of City authorities for relief of sufferers by fire in Hague Street, and for collecting donations and turning same over to City authorities for that purpose.]

[No. 319]

Places of burial in 11th Street & 21st Street described. Among those buried in 11th Street Cemetery appear: Haim Welcome (1806), Joseph D'Aguilar (1808) and Sarah Soesman (1814).

Plan of 21st Street Cemetery showing situation of plots with names of those buried therein. Among these are the following:

Henrietta Adler	Tob. Ezekiel	Hart Simons
M. A. Adolphus	Sophia Fogh	Rudskopf
Child H. M. Andrews	I. Freitman	Chas. Samuels
David Canter	N. G. Grafton	Child of Seaman
I. N. Cardozo	Child of Gutman	Child of Shannon
H. Crommelin	Jacob Lenghi	Jacob Solis
Eml. de la Motta	Child of Lillendall	Saml. Souza
M. Delmar	Josehua Naar	D. H. Valentine
Child of L. Dreyfous	David Nones	H. Wallack
Rebecca Dyer	Child of David	M. Wolfe's child
Child Saml. Emerick	Remos	

[No. 165]

Hebrew prayer for consecration of Beth Haim, L. I., in 1851.  
[No. 238]

1852. Election notice of Benjamin Nathan as Trustee  
of K. K. S. I.  
[No. 275]

[1853. Letter from Congregation to Rev. J. J. Lyons, informing him that Trustees will not permit him to officiate at the funeral of child of Mr. Bernheimer in Temple Emanuel Cemetery.]  
[No. 251]

[1854. Notice of election of B. Nathan, Parnass, and Samuel Lazarus, Segan, of K. K. S. I.]  
[No. 284]

[October 16, 1855. Resolution of Board of Trustees of K. K. S. I. placing name of Judah Touro on list of Escaboth made on Day of Atonement. Memorandum in Mr. Lyons' handwriting states that resolution was passed in gratitude for \$13,000 donated by deceased to School Fund and to the Congregation.]  
[No. 316]

[1855. Permit to K. K. S. I. from City of New York, to remove remains of those interred in Oliver St. Burying Ground to Cemetery in 21st Street for re-interment, under direction of the City Inspector. Thomas Downing City Inspector; Fernando Wood, Mayor.<sup>1</sup>]  
[No. 164]

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<sup>1</sup> [See Rosalie S. Phillips, *Publications*, No. 18, p. 120.]

List of the Names of the remains that have been disinterred from the *Beth Haim* in Oliver Street, to 21" Street.

5616 *									
1855									
<i>Kislev</i> *									
Nov	No								
"	20	1	Rev'd. M. L. M. Peixotto,	died	<i>Ab</i> *	5589, July	17	1828	age 62 years
"	"	2	Benjamin Gomez	"	"	Aug :	14	"	" 58 "
"	21	3	Judah Zuntz	"	5589	[1829] March	4	"	" 46 "
"	"	4	Joseph Gomez	"	"	5495 September	1734	"	" 5 "
"	"	5	Ishak Pinhas	"	"	5470 [1709-10]			
"	23	6	Samuel Myers Cohen	"	"	5504 September	21	1743	" 35 "
"	"	7	Unknown						
"	"	8	"						
"	25	9	Grace Nathan		7 <i>Kislev</i> *	5592 [1831] Nov. 9	age 79 years buried in W. B. to Long Island Bet Hm		
"	26	10	Leah Abrahams						
"	26	11	Unknown (No Inscription)						
"	"	12	" (Child's remains)						
"	"	13	Rebecca Ashers		<i>Shebat</i>	5500 Jany.	22	1740	age 87 years
"	"	14	Unknown						
"	"	15	Rachel Levy	died	"	5509 August	21"	1749	" 42 "
"	"	16	Joseph Isaacs	"	<i>Sivan</i> *	5497 May	1737	"	" 78 "
"	27	17	Sarah Rodriguez Riverra	"	21 <i>Elul</i> *	5487 [September 7, 1727]			
"	28	18	Unknown						
"	28	19	"						
"	"	20	"						
"	29	21	Abraham Nunez Henriques	died	6 <i>Tammuz</i> *	5501 June	29	1741	age 67 years
"	"	22	Aron Louzada	"	27 <i>Kislev</i> *	5525 December	27	1764	" 71 "
"	"	23	Unknown						
"	"	24	"						
"	30	25	"						
"	"	26	"						
Dec	2	27	Judah Hays		21 <i>Ab</i> *	5525 Aug	19	1764	" 61 "
"	"	28	Unknown (No inscription)						
"	"	29	"						
"	"	30	"						
"	"	31	"						
"	"	32	"						
"	3	33	"						
"	"	34	"						
"	4	35	"						
"	"	36	Simah Wife of Moses Torres		21 <i>Heshvan</i> *	5507 October	24	1746	" 69 "
"	"	37	Rachel Rodriques Marquise	died	16 <i>Sivan</i> *	5493 May	19	1733	
"	"	38	Unknown						
"	"	39	"						
"	5	40	Miriam Myers Wife of Manuel Myers daughter of Abraham Pinto	died	5 <i>Tammuz</i> *	5541 July 1st 1781	age 51 years 23 days		
"	"	41	Unknown						
"	"	42	"						
"	6	43	"						
"	"	44	"						
"	"	45	"						
"	"	46	"						
"	"	47	"						
"	17	48	Moses Gomez	died	May 29 1826				
"	"	49	Moses Lewis Gomez, Son of Aron L. Gomez	died	Oct : 12 1828	age 5 years & 3 months to Long			
"	19	50	Levina Wife of J. L. Brandon	died	April 10 1828	[Island Bet Haim			
"	"	51	Levina Reyna Leah daugh : of J. L. Brandon	"	June 16 1830				
"	"	52	Esther Levy	"	March 17 1826				
"	"	53	Unknown						
"	31	54	"						

Memorandum of MSS. and articles deposited in the corner-stone of Nineteenth Street Synagogue of K. K. S. I., New York, July 11, 1859.

1855. Articles of incorporation of the Hebrew Female Benevolent Society of K. K. S. I.

1855. Papers of the Ladies Hebrew Benevolent Society.

1850. Constitution of the Hebrew Female Benevolent Society.

1849. By-Laws of B'nai Jeshurun Ladies Hebrew Benevolent Society.

1843. Constitution and By-Laws of B'nai Jeshurun Ladies Benevolent Society.

[No. 220]

FORM OF SERVICE  
FOR THE  
DEDICATION  
OF THE  
PORTUGUESE HEBREW CONGREGATION  
"SHEARITH ISRAEL,"

In West 19th Street, near Fifth Avenue,  
Consecrated on Wednesday, the 25th Eloul,  
12th September, 5620 [1860].

NEW-YORK;

PRINTED BY JOHN M. JACKSON,

345 East Houston-St.

5620.<sup>1</sup>

TRUSTEES.

JACOB L. SEIXAS, PRESIDENT.

ASHER KURSHEEDT, VICE PRES. & TREASURER.

SOLOMON I. JOSEPH      MORTIMER HENDRICKS

JOSEPH SORIA      JONAS N. PHILLIPS

The Corner Stone was laid on the 9th of Tamooz, 11th of July 5619 [1859].

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<sup>1</sup> [This is a pamphlet of 13 pages.]

The service, Hebrew and English, was followed by a Discourse by Rev. A. Fischel, Ph. D., Lecturer to the Congregation, a Prayer for the Government and a Consecration Prayer.

[No. 301]

[September 19, 1860. Letter by Isaac Phillips, Clerk of K. K. S. I., informing Rev. J. J. Lyons of Resolution of trustees that Philip J. Joachimsen shall receive no mitzva until he withdraws a letter written by him to the Parnass.]

[No. 255]

Printed statement of affairs of Hebra Hased Va Amet. Hillel Seixas, Secretary.

[No. 237]

1861. Resolution of Trustees of K. K. S. I. asking Hazan Lyons to prepare an inventory of the personal property of Congregation.

[No. 256]

Papers of Ladies' Army Relief during the Civil War. Correspondence in regard to furnishing wearing apparel, linen, etc. Lists of items furnished and donations made by ladies of K. K. S. I. for the benefit of war sufferers.

[No. 217]

Announcement to K. K. S. I. in the handwriting of Rev. J. J. Lyons regarding subscription to the Lincoln Monument.

I have been specially requested by the Committee to call the attention of my Congregation to the project in contemplation to erect a monument in or near one of our public squares, as a lasting tribute of respect of the citizens of New York to

the memory of their late beloved and lamented President. A Subscription paper has been sent to me, and I can but say I shall be happy to be chosen by you the medium of transmitting your contributions and those of the members of your families to the Committee who have the matter in charge. "A common calamity calls for united and universal sympathy." The amount of subscription is limited to One Dollar each person so as to embrace people of all conditions in life, and it is expected that you, my friends, men, women and children, will all avail yourselves of the opportunity to assist in the furtherance of so noble and commendable an undertaking, which will in future bear testimony of your love of a good man, and your appreciation of the Services of a faithful officer—Peace be unto his memory.

[No. 311]

ITEMS RELATING TO GERSHOM M. SEIXAS.

PRAYER FOR PEACE DURING THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION,  
WITH A NOTE OF REV. GERSHOM SEIXAS TO  
MR. ISAAC MOSES.

O Great, tremendous, mighty, high, & Exalted King of Israel, Lord of Hosts. He who dispenseth Safety unto Kings, and Dominion unto princes, whose Kingdom is an Everlasting Kingdom; He that Redeemeth, delivereth, and multiplieth his mercies for their benefit; He that is near to all those that call upon him, He that answereth those that fear him, when called on in time of their distress. May he bless, guard, preserve, assist, shield, Save, supremely Exalt, and aggrandize to a high degree His Excellency the President, & the Honble Delegates of the United States of America, in Congress Assembled; His Excellency George Washington, Capt. Genl. & Commander in Chief of the Federal Army of these States, His Excellency the President, the Honble the Executive Council, & Members of the General Assembly of this Commonwealth, and all Kings & Potentates, in alliance with North America.

May the supreme King of kings, through his infinite mercies, preserve & grant them Life and deliver them from all manner of Trouble & injury, fixing and Establishing them in their several departments, in peace and tranquility.

May the supreme King of kings through his infinite mercies, save and prosper the Men of these United States, who are gone forth to War; The Lord of Hosts be the shield of those who are Armed for war by Land, and for those who are gone in Ships to war on the Seas, May the Lord fight for them; May they, their Rulers, their Leaders, and all their Allies joining them in battle, equally experience thy goodness; And may thy Angels have them in Charge, and save them from Death, and all manner of distress. May the Supreme King of Kings im-



plant among them, Amity, brotherly Love, peace and Sociableness. Let not their Lips speak Evil, nor their Tongues utter deceit. May their Troops go forth without duplicity when they have taken counsel together, to war against those, that seek their Injury. May the supreme King of Kings thro his infinite mercies, impart his divine wisdom, to the Rulers of these United States, and grant them a Spirit of Just Council and true Valour, so that they may be enabled, to support their determinations with wisdom and Judgment, And may a permanent Peace subsist between them, and the Kings & Potentates, in alliance with them, and Establish to them a Covenant of Peace, until time shall be no more, so that Nation shall not lift up their sword against nation, neither shall they combat or make war any more, Amen. Grant it thus O Lord, for the sake of thy great and ineffable Name, and for the sake of thy People, and thine inheritance, who offereth up their supplications to thee, whose Seat is in heaven; Invoking thee, Hasten, and let thy tender mercies anticipate our prayers, for we are greatly deficient and undeserving, Incline thine Ear and hearken, Open thine Eyes, and see our distresses, and do not despise our unworthiness, nor our Cry unto thee.

We Beeseech thee, O Most gracious and Merciful king, to whom peace Pertaineth, that thou wilt cause us to enjoy a firm Peace & Tranquility, & Spread over us the Tabernacle of peace everlastingly, & speedily permit, that among us may be heard, "the Voice of him who bringeth glad tidings, announcing that, 'The Redeemer Cometh to Zion,' " Amen. So may it be.

The following note is written on the back :

Sir

please to have this Copied & return it back again as I have no other.

Yours &c &c

G. S-

Mr. Isaac Moses-

[No. 87]

[Document found among the papers of Rev. G. Seixas, giving a German Rabbi's explanation of Daniel VII: 25 &c., and containing an elaborate calculation fixing the time for the coming of the Messiah as the year 1783.

The calculation fixes the year 3828 A. M. as the date of the destruction of the Second Temple. According to Daniel, captivity is to endure "Time, Times and the dividing of Time." Time is figured as comprising 70 Semitot, *i. e.*, 490 years, and the prophecy is therefore construed as meaning  $490 + 980 + 245 = 1715$  years which is to be the duration of the present captivity. Present captivity having started in 3828, it follows that  $3828 + 1715 = 5543$ , or 1783.

Another method of computation takes the number of years that Israel committed idolatry as a basis for the discovery of the time of the Messiah. Israel, according to the Rabbins, committed idolatry for 245 years. According to Scripture, seven times is to be added for every sin, therefore  $7 \times 245 = 1715$ , namely the number of years that our captivity is to endure, and  $1715 + 3828 = 5543$ , or 1783.

The prophecy is further explained as marking great epochs before the coming of the Messiah. Thus "Time" was to mark the end of the Kingdom of Edom.  $3828 + 490 = 4318$ , the establishment of the Turkish Empire. "Times" represents  $4318 + 980 = 5298$ , the date of the revolt of Luther; so that there now only remains the addition of 245 to the latter date to mark the final upheaval and general redemption, when all nations will unite in one faith, and this final date is fixed as above for the year 1783.]

[No. 57]

[1784.—Resolution of K. K. S. I. giving Gershom Seixas £200 per annum. Letter from Gershom Seixas<sup>1</sup> to the Trustees, January 1784, accepting terms but stating his inability to enter upon his duties until Ros Hodes Nissan, [March 23, 1784.]

[No. 140]

1784—Copy of English address by Rev. G. Seixas on his return to New York after the Revolution by order of Parnas.

The manifold Mercies of Almighty Providence exercised towards us during the Course of a perilous & most distressing War—& our being again restor'd to our former Place of Residence in Peace. it becomes a Duty incumbent on us to exert ourselves as a religious Society to acknowledge our Gratitude to him in every possible Manner, to celebrate his Praises & to glorify his holy Name—

As a just Tribute due to Omnipotence, the Parnass requests the Congregation, that the stricter attention may be paid to the Rules of Decency & Decorum which have a natural tendency to excite Devotion especially in Time of divine Service, which he is sorry to observe has been for some time neglected, but is in Hopes to see this holy Congregation placed on such a Footing as to command Respect, instead of Contempt which they incur by some evil Practices that have obtained thro' the Means of a few weak & inconsiderate set of Men such as Leaving the Synagogue in times of Prayer, talking & laughing with & to each other—he therefore strongly recommends a proper & suitable Behaviour to every One who assembles in this Place &

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<sup>1</sup> [Rev. Gershom M. Seixas had left New York at the outbreak of the American Revolution and gone to Connecticut, taking with him the scrolls of the law. Later in the struggle he moved to Philadelphia where he officiated for the local congregation which had been established largely by refugees from New York. He returned to New York after the British evacuation to resume his duties.]

most earnestly exhorts them to consider in whose Presence they are & to Whom they address themselves, & know that it is the Supreme King of Kings, who penetrates the most secret recesses of the Heart, & who is ever ready to hear those who call upon Him in Truth.

He more particularly requires of those who are Parents to enjoin their Children not to commit those Misdemeanors which are so highly reprehensible, but to admonish them on everything that tends to Indecency—

He at the same time takes the Liberty to assure you that he does not mean to arrogate to himself any Power which he is not legally entitled to by the Nature of his Office but is solely actuated by Motives of Zeal for our holy & religious Worship— & from an innate Principle of Benevolence to promote the real Welfare of this Congregation which always has been & is now his chief Study—

Sensible of the Fallability of Man he hesitates not to declare that he is ever open to Conviction, & should he at any time in the Course of his Administration give Occasion of Offence to any Individual, he hopes they will not impute it to Design, as it is his most strenuous Desire to give general Satisfaction.

Convinced of the Difficulties attending those who govern he calls on you all to join Heart & Hand to support him in every thing that is justifiable in the Sight of God & Man—to your own Reason he appeals, & to your Decisions he cheerfully submits—

In full Confidence of your Endeavors to comply with his Requisitions—he rests assured we may attain the consequent Blessings of Peace and humbly prays the Almighty God to continue his Goodness to us & to all Israel. Amen.

[No. 241]

[October 21, 1792.—Letter from Gershom Seixas to the Trustees of K. K. S. I. complaining that while his contract called for a salary of £140 and house rent, the Trustees had

allowed but £40 for the latter, whereas his rent actually was £65 per annum; that he had consented to decreased salary only because of the condition of the treasury, but could not permit a further reduction, and that he would feel at liberty to demand proper compensation for his services unless the terms of the contract were adhered to.]

[No. 139]

[August 18, 1794.—Letter received from Hazan Seixas stating that he had been given the option of living in the house built by the Congregation or not. He states that he had refused to do so, having rented another house instead, at a rental of £105 per annum, and therefore asks that the words in the Resolution to the effect that a new house had been built for his residence, be erased.]

[No. 143]

[August 21, 1794.—Letter to the Trustees of K. K. S. I. from Gershom Seixas in regard to his contract, and offering that differences be referred to three or five citizens of any other religious society for arbitration.]

[No. 145]

September 5, 1794.—Report of Committee regarding house offered to Rev. G. Seixas. He is to receive the rent the new house may bring.

[No. 144]

August 2, 1795.—Letter from Gershom Seixas to the Trustees asking meeting of Electors to consider increase in his salary.

[No. 141]

[September 8, 1795.—Letter from Gershom Seixas to Manuel Myers, President of the Board of Trustees, mentions

receipt of communication from Dr. Lyte, Clerk of the Congregation, and states that the action of the trustees allowing him £20 annually in addition to his salary is not satisfactory. He asks that a meeting of the Electors be called to reconsider the subject so that the increase be put on a permanent basis without reference to the present contract.]

[No. 142]

MS. Book in the handwriting of Rev. Gershom Mendes Seixas containing Order of Service for Thanksgiving 1799 and his discourse on the occasion.

Nov<sup>r</sup>. 28<sup>th</sup> 1799 New York—

At a Meeting of a great Majority of the Clergy of this City it was unanimously agreed to recommend to their respective Congregations to observe Thursday the 19<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup>. as a Day of public Thanksgiving & prayer—which corresponded with the 21<sup>st</sup> of Kislieu 5560 upon which occasion the K. K. Shearith Israel was convened & the following order of Service performed—

the 3 first Verses of Ps. 95<sup>th</sup>

*Praise ye the Lord, call on \**

Chaunted as on the Festivals

then the following Psalms according

to their respective tunes

30<sup>th</sup>. 33<sup>d</sup>. 34<sup>th</sup>. 90<sup>th</sup> & 91<sup>st</sup>

the following discourse by the Hazan

Prayer for the Government

& the Administrators & Rulers &c &c

Prayer for the Congren.

a short introductory discourse on the subject of

free will offerings to the Fund

appropriated for private Charities

& after the offerings

then the Psalms 67<sup>th</sup>. 122<sup>d</sup>. 124<sup>th</sup> & 150<sup>th</sup>

Chaunted by the Hazan & Kahal

Concluded as on a festival day

from *All Israel* \*—Veshalom

[The sermon is based on the text "O Lord of Hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in Thee" (the last verse of the 54th Psalm). In the course of the sermon the preacher refers to the "Vistitation of an epidemic malady in the city we dwell in," and he describes how:]

At one time we were visited with alarming fires, that threatened the consumption of our metropolis, at another a species of pestilence prevailed, which deprived us of many valuable members of Society, then the apprehensions of a dreadful War, again the visitation of an epidemic which though it has not been attended with the same degree of fatality as formerly, still it has carried with it the same formidable appearance, compelled the Citizens to quit their usual places of residence, & to flee for refuge to the country towns and villages, where they have been obliged to put up with many inconveniencies, and attended with great expence—the Man of business relinquishes the advantages of trade, & the poorer Class of people must inevitably suffer in their pecuniary circumstances, so that we may truly say, that every individual (either in a greater or lesser degree) have felt the bad effects of this direful malady, these sufferings call loudly on us for a strict reformation. . . .<sup>1</sup>

Let us be gratefull for all the benefits we have received, both before, & even, during the time of our distress, and since then, that we are now again embodied & assembled, to celebrate His praises, & to glorify His holy name. let us also keep in mind that tho' our small congregation was driven from our public place of worship, and dispersed in various parts of the Country, there was yet an opportunity for the greater number of them to assemble together in union to observe the appointed times & festivals instituted by divine Authority, agreeably to the rites & ceremonies of our forefathers, to pretend to specify all the particular blessings we enjoyed amidst the terrific evil of the late epidemic would be descending too much in the minutia of things: suffice it to say in general terms, that we had a regular supply of the real necessities of life, though attended with somewhat more difficulty than common in the procuring of them. . . .

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<sup>1</sup> [The epidemic referred to was that of yellow fever which raged in New York for some time, so that even the banks of the city were removed to Greenwich Village. A list of Jews who died during the epidemic of 1798 may be found in a paper by Samuel Oppenheim, *Publications*, No. 25, p. 123.]

[He refers in the sermon to the Divine protection and adds:]

I mean not to insinuate any impropriety of leaving the City at the time the epidemic prevailed, for we have many instances in the Sacred Scriptures to confirm the necessity of such procedure, I shall just mention a few cases, where Men of the strongest faith and greatest piety fled from the appearance of danger & sought a place of security. Jacob when threatened with death by Esau, quitted his family and country and went to another place. . . .

[In the final prayer, he prays:]

Impart thy divine wisdom to the Rulers & Administrators of Government, <sup>1st</sup> (bless & preserve them in their respective departments, and graciously extend thy protection & direction, to the good people of this State, and to the United States of America in general, with their representatives in the Legislature, <sup>1st</sup> either in Council or in the Field, guard them from all evil and danger, secure them in their just rights and possessions, remove far from them the spirit of envy & jealousy, let no discord prevail in their councils or in their Armies, unite them in the bonds of brotherly and social love, and let peace and harmony reside perpetually among them, that they may act in such manner as to command the approbation of their Constitutents.

[No. 281—A; B; C]

1801—Petition of Rev. G. Seixas referring to past services to the Congregation.

To the Electors of the Congregation Shearith Israel in New York

Gentlemen—

The Petition & Remonstrance of G. Seixas Hazan of the aforesaid Congregation

Humbly Sheweth—

That it is now upwards of thirty three Years since he was called to the office of Hazan & excepting Seven years that he was in exile—during the revolution (he flatters himself) he has always performed the duties pertaining to the office according to the trust reposed in him—



In the Year 1784 I returned from Philadelphia where I had served near four Years at the rate of £200 Pennsylvania currency per annum, fire wood, and the emoluments belonging to the office of Hazan, that I returned here in the month of January and Contracted with the Parnass & Junta to Serve this Congregation again at the rate of £200 currency per annum with Six cords of Hickory wood, matsoth and perquisites as usual—

When the Charter was obtained it was thought Necessary that I should resign in order to be established consonant to the rules laid down by the act of the Legislature for incorporating Religious Societies, This I Consented to & was reelected, and the Salary fixed by the Electors—Conformable to the previous agreement—

In the month of October 1785 I wrote a letter to the trustees of the Congregation & Stipulated the Conditions of Serving the Congregation during good behaviour— Sometime after a meeting of the Electors was held and my letter was laid before them as appears by the Minutes of the Trustees Book.

In Consequence of which a Motion was made and Carried in the affirmative that the Hazan be allowed the Salary of £50 for every three Lunar Months (which was paid, with Six cords Hickory wood and perquisites as usual) of this I am informed by Mr Manuel Myers who was the President of the Board of Trustees, and Parnass at that time—this being the mode used previous to the Charter, no other was thought necessary, and the Book Kept by the Parnass and handed to each Succeeding Parnass, was deemed a Sufficient Contract between the Parties This passed on for Some Years when I was requested to attend the Board of Trustees where I was informed that the funds of the Synagogue were insufficient to defray the expences and desired to know if I expected to be paid for the additional month of Veadar (it being leap Year) I answered them that I had a right to expect it according to our agreement of 1785 but Considering the impoverished Situation of our funds I

would relinquish it, and was willing to engage with them at the Rate of £200 per Solar Year, with Perquisites as usual—This they readily agreed to and thought it would be the Best mode—

Some time afterwards I was again requested to attend the Board of Trustees, to propose ways and Means, whereby I might be paid (as there was a Considerable Sum of money due to me at that time) I answered that it was not for me to dictate, as I was not a Trustee, and it was entirely out of my province but would be glad to know what they meant to do, they replied they intended to Curtail the Salaries of the Hirelings and proposed it to me to Consider of it, I told them it was not in their power to annul any contract made with the Electors without the Mutual Consent of Both Parties I argued if they meant to impeach me of Neglect of Duty, or that I had been guilty of Malpractices, it was necessary I should have a fair trial, and if Convicted before the Congregation I should then naturally be dismissed the office—they Said it was not their design so to do, but pled the inability of the funds either to discharge the debt due to me, or to Continue me in office at that rate— in Short things went on in this Manner for Some Considerable time, until I relinquished another considerable Sum in order to accomodate, upon the assurance given me by the Board of Trustees that whenever the funds of the Synagogue were adequate they would be ready to fix my Salary equal if not Superior to what it had always been—depending in some measure on the[ir] integrity. I Cheerfully Submitted to the Inconveniencies which I have experienced during many Years Services—

I Shall Say nothing of the Services I have rendered to the Society, abstracted from the duties of my office, but having Spent the prime part of my days in the Service of this Congregation and being now advanced in Years, cannot so readily establish myself in any other line of life, that it may please You to take the premises into your Serious Consideration and that

Your Conclusion may be favorable, and your Petitioner as in Duty Bound Shall ever Pray &c

Signed for G. SEIXAS Hazan

& acknowledged by G. Seixas Hazan

New York, 22<sup>d</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup>. 1801.

[No. 168]

Memorandum. Rev. Mr. G. Seixas in a petition dated November 22, 1801, says that he has been 33 years in service (barring seven years in exile). He entered as *Hazan* \* 1st Tamuz 5528 [June 16, 1768] when M. Hays and S. Hart were Parnassim. He died 6 *Tamuz* \* [July 2] 1816, after a service of nearly 48 years.

[No. 312]

Sermons, discourses and epistolary opinions on religious matters by Gershom Seixas. Date must be after 1801, probably 1804.

(1) A Sermon for Thanksgiving Day in which the speaker gives thanks for the recent escape of the City of New York from the scourge of Yellow Fever, and mentions among the blessings of the past year the establishment of the Polonies School. The sermon contains a generous appreciation of American free institutions, and breathes a sincere devotion to American ideals.

(2) Fragment of a sermon evidently preached shortly after the great epidemic.

[No. 61]

Discourse delivered in the Synagogue by G. Seixas on Thursday the 18th of Tebet 5565 & Decr. 20th 1805 by appointment of the Direction of the funds appropriated to Private Charities, being the same day recommended by the Corporation of the City of New York, at the instance of the

Rev. Clergy, to be observed as a Day of public Thanksgiving & Prayer. The sermon is based on the text: "To Thee O Lord, is loving kindness, and Thou wilt requite each according to his deeds."

[In the course of his sermon he writes:]

Look around you & see the finger of God, pointing out in the most awful manner, the direful effects of Sin. Year after year, we have felt the scourging rod of infinite Justice, & it seemeth as if land

the earth was polluted with blood, & crieth out aloud for vengeance from on high. neither is it confined to the City we live in, but extends on both sides to the extremes of the Union. Cities & towns have experienced the most violent devastations that could be produced by storms & tempests. & great have been the conflagrations both here & elsewhere— Individuals have sustained innumerable damages in their property, and many now lament the losses of their nearest & dearest relatives. . . .

To form a just estimate of the blessings we possess, it will be necessary to take a retrospective view of the former season, & place it in a comparative state with the latter. then it was piteous to behold the countenances of each other, the gloomy apprehensions seated on the brow, were certain indications of a mind, oppressed with horror & dismay—how different the latter season—the Citizens enjoying health, uninterrupted in their lawful occupations, settled securely in their habitations, not compelled to flee to the adjacent towns & villages to avoid the ravages & desolation of epidemic disease. Agriculture & Commerce flourishing & prosperous Seminaries of education continuing their rotinas of duty, Arts & sciences attended to as usual and every public place resorted to, without the fear of danger— . . .

[He refers directly to the Charity in the following words:]

I trust it will tend to promote the usefulness of the *Kalfe Sedaka* \* which was instituted, 6 years ago, when few of our brethren resided in the City—and many of those, fell victim to the direfull epidemic—some others felt the malignant influence of the disease, but through the goodness of Providence, are enabled to attend us at this day—at that time our contributions were small, still they were found to be of great service to our distressed friends—many have been benefitted since, in proportion to the insufficiency of the Fund, which could not extend in a more ample manner, to supply all who stand in need of assistance at this

dreary season of the year—much will depend on the offerings of this day, and it is to be hoped that every man will be recompensed according to the goodness of his works—

Let us now unite in prayer, and with awful tremblings render praise & thanksgiving to our God, the God of Israel, to whom all power & mercy pertaineth—join with me in supplication & let us mentally pray for each other—we humbly beseech thee Oh Lord! to look down upon us from thine holy habitation & grant us thy all-powerful protection, shield us under the wings of thy holy Providence, & preserve us from evil; direct us in the pursuits of life, & guard us from the reproaches of Man— Bless & protect the President of the Union, with the administrators of the general Government, in their respective departments—the Governor & Rulers of this State—Judges & Counsellors—and the Magistrates of this City— Impart to them an emanation of thy divine wisdom—that they may know & judge distinctly, between that which would prove beneficial to the United States—and that which might be injurious—let no party schisms in state affairs prevail, so as to destroy the principles of the Constitution, which is for the security of person & property, & sworn to be observed by the administrators of Government.

May the Congress assembled, act in unison with each other to promote the welfare of all—and may they be able to deliberate and decide on all laws proposed for the advantage of their Constituents May agriculture flourish & Commerce be prosperous, may the seminaries of education be continued under the direction of able Teachers & Professors—that the succeeding generations may gain the knowledge of freedom without licentiousness, & the usefulness of power without tyranny.

May the people be convinced of the fidelity of their representatives, and may no cause of jealousy subsist among the different States of the Union—may the blessing of Peace attend their

Land

Councils; & finally may “the earth be filled with knowledge as waters covereth the Seas—”

So be it thy will & we will say Amen.

[No. 281 D]

Fragment of another version of Sermon D, from which there is nothing of special interest to quote, other than that which is found in D.

[No. 281 E]

A sermon by Gershom Mendes Seixas, probably addressed to the children of the Polonies Talmud Torah School.

[The following extract is of interest:]

They have provided for your information, they have procured for you an able & well informed instructor, one, who is attached to you from Principle, who is assiduous for your benefits, respect him, love him, & cherish the regard he pays to your morals, as well as the lessons he points out for your improvements, in learning: cheerfully obey him, and know, that it is not the shape of man, which you have by nature, from God & your Parents, but it is the preceptor that humanizes you & engrafts upon your minds, the knowledge of our holy law, which teaches you every duty toward God—your country—& your fellow creatures. . . .

[No. 281 G]

A Charity Sermon preached in the Synagogue in New York by G. Seixas, in compliance with the request of the Trustees, for the benefit of the Institution of the *Funds of the Charity Mattan Basether*\* (the fund appropriated to private charity) on Sunday the 2d of Shebath 5567 & the 11th January 1807.

[The sermon opens with a prayer in which the following words occur:]

Oh Lord, we pray thee to take in thy holy keeping the President, & Vice-president of the United States [of Ameri]<sup>1</sup>ca, the Senate & representatives in Con[gress ass]<sup>1</sup>embled, with all officers & administrators of the general government—the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, & the people of this State with the Magistrates of this City. preserve them from danger & injury, may they with all the rulers under them, in their several stations of office, deal kindly with us & with all Israel . . . .

[The sermon refers to the Sanhedrin convened by Napoleon in the following words:]

Among the many events, predicted by the Prophets, to take place, previous to the restoration of Israel, to their former glory and pre-eminence, the Convention of our brethren in Zarephath,<sup>2</sup> may be

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<sup>1</sup> [MS. torn.]

<sup>2</sup> [Zarephath is the Hebrew name for France.]

viewed, as one of not the least extraordinary, for under the auspices of the most powerful potentate of Europe, & after the lapse of 17 Centuries since our Captivity, he has collected the most learned of our Rabbonim, who reside in his dominions, & invited every one, who incline to attend from other countries, to assemble in his metropolis, to form a Sanhedrin, for what purpose, or what their business will be, we can not pretend to say, many things are conjectured, but none to be depended on, from what motives there were convened, we have no more knowledge of, than what is published to the whole world, at present every thing appears in a favorable train, but no one can say with precision, how it will terminate. let us pray that the God of Israel may so direct them, that they may not be involved in difficulty, & may be able to avert every possible evil. that they may find favor in the sight of their Emperor, & that he under the influence of divine grace, may be a means to accomplish our reestablishment if not as a nation in our former territory, let it only be as a particular society, with equal rights & privileges of all other religious Societies. this circumstance alone calls forth our gratitude to God, for His benignity, in having preserved us a distinct body, among all nations. . . .

[The charitable society, Mattan Basether, is referred to as follows:]

It is now upwards of eight years since the institution of the Kalfe Sedaka Mattan Basether was established, & it must afford happiness to every one, who has contributed his mite towards so laudable a purpose, by the managers accounts, upwards of one hundred & fifty dollars have been appropriated for the use of the poor, during the course of the last year, exclusive of two hundred dollars & upwards offered by a general Nedaba made on the day preceding Hanuca 5566 (now about 13 months). . . .

[The management of the Society is defended when he says:]

It is with much regret, that I am constrained to notice some observations, that have been made (through inadvertance) by some of the most generous contributors to the Institution, & of the most liberal sentiments, in respect to the management of the Fund, not considering that they have three unconnected persons, in the direction, entirely independent of each other, in whom all confidence should be placed, to distribute according to the real wants, of such objects as they deem deserving, & coming under the description originally designated. this is the true nature of private charities—

you do not, (and you ought not to) know the receivers: neither should you make enquiries concerning the disposal of the offerings, you have voluntarily given, for the express purpose of relieving the indigent, in such manner as not to injure their feelings, nor should you insinuate anything, that would throw a reflection on the Men of your choice, it is their duty to seek out the objects in distress, & when found, to give them every possible assistance—such has been the conduct of the managers hitherto, & no doubt they will continue to act in the same manner. it is sufficient for you to know, that you have been & are, the benefactors & supporters of so laudable an institution, and consonant to your motives, you will be sure to reap the promised blessings, attending charitable donations, and enjoy all the pleasures of self approbation. God of His infinite mercies, reward you for your good works, & particularly for your manifesting a disposition to Charity. . . .

[He says that in organized society “there was always provision made for charitable and benevolent purposes.” But, he continues:]

Here we have no general rule, to provide for our poor & indigent brethren. we must altogether depend on the bounteous donations of a generous few, who have already by their exertions & voluntary contributions, supported the Institution, by which many have been relieved from their distresses, & more have been benefited than can be mentioned, with any degree of propriety, conformably to the nature & design of the Kalfe sedaka Mattan Basether. . . .

[The following passage is also of interest:]

There is not a Prophet from Moses to Malachi, (with the rest of the inspired writers) but what takes notice of the remarkable events, that have attended us, from the commencement of our general captivity, even unto the present day. twice have we been redeemed, according to the sacred history, and we have every reason to expect, the third time is nearly (& rapidly) approaching, when we shall be established forever. as it is said *Vechayyenu miyyomayim* “After two days he will revive us, on the third day he will establish us, & we shall live in His presence. . . .”

[At the end of the sermon the following notice is found:]

At a meeting of the Contributors to the Kalfe sedaka Mattan Basether holden this morning Mess<sup>rs</sup> Naphtali Judah, Samson Simson & Harmon Hendricks, were elected to be the Managers for



the ensuing year, in consequence thereof, they will make their offerings first, the Parnass & Trustees in rotation, next, & afterwards, the Hazan will receive the orders for offerings, of all other persons according to what is customary.

[No. 281 F]

Eulogy on Rev. Gershom Mendes Seixas by Naphtali Phillips, pronounced in the Synagogue in the city of New York, on Saturday the 13th July, 1816, at the request of the Trustees of the Congregation Shearith Israel. New York: Printed by J. H. Sherman, No. 10 Broad-street. 1816.

[See in this connection Leon Huhner, "Gershom Mendes Seixas, the Patriot Jewish Minister of the American Revolution", in *Jewish Comment*, January 10, 1902; also N. Taylor Phillips, "Gershom Mendes Seixas," in "The American Jewish Year Book, 5665."]

[No. 191]

ITEMS RELATING TO REV. J. J. LYONS.

Aug. 25, 1813. Congregational certificate in Dutch of the birth of Jacob, son of Matje Asser Levy and I. E. Lyons, at Surinam.

Official certificate to same effect.

[Nos. 322 and 323]

February 19, 1836. Certificate in Dutch from the congregation at Paramaribo, Surinam, relating to Rev. J. J. Lyons.

[No. 320]

[Paramaribo, June 16, 1837. Certificate from the congregation at Surinam, where he acted as Hazan for five years, to Rev. J. J. Lyons, testifying to his ability and character. Signed by M. A. Keizer, President; Abm. S. Van Coerland, 2nd Parnas; and M. M. DeHart, Jr., Treasurer.]

[No. 36]

Philadelphia, February 17, 1838. Certificate of Rev. Isaac Leeser as to qualifications of Rev. J. J. Lyons as Hazan.

[No. 32]

[April 14, 1838. Circular of Beth Shalome Congregation, Richmond, Va., addressed to the Jews of Virginia in regard to engaging Rev. J. J. Lyons as Hazan. April 22, 1838. Reply of J. J. Lyons to members of the congregation on his election to post of Hazan, stating the impossibility of giving a definite answer before a consultation on the subject with his parents.—August 23, 1839. Certificate from members of Beth Shalome to Rev. J. J. Lyons, testifying to his character and capacity,

signed by Jacob A. Levy, Parnass; Henry Hyman, Jacob Ezekiel, Gabay; Saml. H. Myers, Gustavus A. Myers, Joseph Marx, Saml. Marx, Henry Myers, Abraham H. Cohen, Moses M. Myers and Michael B. Wolfe.]

[See Herbert T. Ezekiel and Gaston Lichtenstein, "The History of the Jews of Richmond, 1769-1917," p. 242.]

[No. 7]

1839. Application of Rev. J. J. Lyons for position as Hazan in Congregation Shearith Israel, New York.

[No. 34]

1840. Certificate given by Congregation at Surinam to Rev. J. J. Lyons.<sup>1</sup>

The Parnassim of the Dutch Israelite Community of Surinam.

Hereby testify that the respected Jacques J. Lyons has been precentor (Hazan) of our community during a period of four years; that he has always done his duty with all diligence and zeal and has given continuous proof of his good behaviour. In witness thereof, the Parnassim have signed this certificate with their own hands and sealed it with the seal of the congregation.

Paramaribo the 3 November 1840.

Seal

ALEX. SALOMONS

J. BROMET

C. HEILBRON

[No. 33]

[September 14, 1841. Letter of thanks to Rev. J. J. Lyons, signed by S. Salomon and Mr. Silberman for assistance in consecrating the House of Jacob Synagogue, which resulted in offerings amounting to over \$800.]

[No. 157]

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<sup>1</sup> [Translated from the Dutch.]

November, 1842. Invitation to the Revd. E. Lyons of Richmond to officiate at the marriage of Rev. J. J. Lyons.

At a meeting of the trustees of the Congregation Shearith Israel

Mr Nathan applied in behalf of the Rev<sup>d</sup> J. J. Lyons that the Ceremony of his marriage be performed by a gentleman to be designated by the board of trustees.

On motion. Resolved that this board designate the Reverend Eleazer Lyons<sup>1</sup> Hazan at Richmond V., and that he be requested to perform the Marriage Ceremony: and that the trustees defray his expenses: a copy of this resolution to be transmitted to him.

Extract from the Minutes

N. PHILLIPS Clk.

Salienta Sabbath. Nov. 5/42.

Revd Eleazer Lyons

Richmond Va.

[No. 37]

[March 4, 1854. Resolution appointing Rev. J. J. Lyons Superintendent of the Polonies Talmud Torah School for one year at \$500 per annum, and granting him permission to go to Philadelphia over the following Sabbath, provided he find a suitable person to fill his place.]

[No. 35]

[July 6, 1854. Copy of letter from Rev. J. J. Lyons to Sir Moses Montefiore, enclosing bill of exchange for £100, "as the contribution from the members of the Portuguese congregation K. K. Shearith Israel in this city to their brethren in Palestine."]

[No. 334]

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<sup>1</sup> [Rev. Eleazer Lyons was a brother of Rev. J. J. Lyons.]

[1854. Draft of letter by Rev. J. J. Lyons to Sir Moses Montefiore, sending £15, balance of collection for Jews of Palestine, and acknowledgment of same.]

[No. 329]

[(a) London, January 11th and 20th, 1860. Two letters from Sir Moses Montefiore to Rev. J. J. Lyons, thanking Jacob Seixas as Parnass and also the Trustees of the Congregation, for collection in behalf of the Morocco Relief Fund, and acknowledging receipt of £143.

(b) London, March 14 and April 2, 1860. Two letters from same to same on same subject, acknowledging receipt of £45.

(c) Ramsgate, England, December 29, 1862. Letter from Sir Moses Montefiore to Rev. J. J. Lyons, enclosing parting gift in memory of Lady Montefiore.]

[No. 261]

[1862. Draft of letter of condolence by Rev. J. J. Lyons to Sir Moses Montefiore on the death of his wife, and an acknowledgment of the same.]

[Nos. 327 and 328]

Prayer by Rev. J. J. Lyons on the death of Lincoln.

Almighty God! We come with deeply felt sorrow in this solemn hour to prostrate ourselves at thy throne and submissively to bend under the trial wherewith Thou hast seen fit to afflict this nation (among whom our lot is cast in our dispersion.) The joy of a great people has been changed into grief. For one moment only didst Thou hide Thy face, and we are sorely troubled. Our mirth is turned to mourning, our garment of gladness is changed into sackcloth. The man whom Thou in thy wisdom didst select to guide this great

nation through a fearful struggle in the cause of humanity, has been arrested in the midst of his usefulness, when well nigh the accomplishment of his great purpose, by the ruthless hand of the assassin. Appalled by the severity of the blow, dismayed by the suddenness of the affliction, we know not what else to do, but to turn to thee, O Source of all goodness, for help and for comfort. We bewail the sudden removal from our midst of the good, the honest, Abraham Lincoln, and pray thee O Source of eternal life, that his merits may find favor with thee, and that his soul may be received in the kingdom of Heaven, where, as we are taught by our sages, there is reserved a bliss everlasting for the pious and the righteous of all nations. We pray thee further, O God who art the only source of comfort in this season of calamity, most mercifully and kindly to compassionate the heartbroken widow and children of our departed President. In the memory of his sterling worth and his exemplary virtues, let them find that consolation which alone can heal their wounds and dry their tears. Repair, O God, the shattered frame and heal the bleeding wounds of our great statesman, William H. Seward, now languishing on the couch of illness, because of the cowardly attempt upon his life. Restore the vigor of both his mind and body, that he may soon again resume his labor and with his wisdom and prudence contribute as of old to the dignity and elevation of our country and to a speedy and final restoration of peace and harmony within its borders.—

Bless, O Lord, him who is constitutionally appointed to succeed in power as the Chief Magistrate of this republic. Inspire him with wisdom, assist him with thy counsel, properly to fulfill his duties, so that all his acts may tend to the prosperity of our once happy, now bleeding country. In the midst of our sorrow, we find still, O God, a great cause of thanksgiving. We thank thee that the assassin's blow can only reach the body. We thank thee that the bullet and the knife can only injure this temporal life. We thank thee that they are power-

less as regards the immortal soul whence emanate virtue, love, humanity. Sanctify this calamity, then, unto this country for its ultimate good. Let the martyrdom of that good man, because of his devotion to his country, fire the hearts of all the people to emulate his noble aspirations, his virtues that will never die. Let his love of liberty and justice tempered by the spirit of forgiveness and conciliation inspire us all to aim at the consummation of the same great object; that a universal love may soon bring about peace and harmony to the North and the South, to the East and the West, to all men on earth Amen.

[No. 340]

MS. notebook in handwriting of Rev. J. J. Lyons, containing notes on the Jews of Newport and Arnold's "History of Rhode Island."

[No. 324]

MS. lecture by Rev. J. J. Lyons on the history of the Jews in regard to their loyalty and military achievements, delivered before the Hebrew Religious and Literary Library Association.

[No. 338]

[About 1872.] Copy of letter of Rev. J. J. Lyons to Messrs. D. and N. H. Gould of Newport regarding intended visit to Newport.

[No. 280 C]

Sermon by Rev. J. J. Lyons on the occasion of the death of President Harrison.

[No. 341]

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS RELATING TO JEWS IN NEW YORK.

Bill of costs for Lewis Gomez's letters of denization, amounting to £57.1. 6, from Feb. 26 to April 21, 1705.

[No. 330]

Portion of a Manuscript Copy of Daily Prayers in English in the handwriting of Mr. Abm. Isaacs, Grandfather of Mr. Sampson M. Isaacs. [Mr. Isaacs died in 1743.]

[No. 69]

[New York, 1751. Marriage contract between Haym Myers and Rachel Louzada, daughter of the late Moses Louzada. M. Seixas and Benjamin Perreyra, witnesses.]

[No. 206]

[New York, May 15, 1751. *Ketubah* of Hayman, son of Moses Levy, and Sloé Myers, witnessed by Benjamin Pereira and Moses Gomez.]

[No. 296]

REGISTRY OF CIRCUMCISIONS BY ABM. I. ABRAHAMIS FROM JUNE 1756  
TO JANUARY 1781 IN NEW YORK, IN HEBREW AND ENGLISH.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Wednesday June 25 <sup>th</sup> 1756.<br>My son Isaac in New York. | In good omen 15th Sivan 5516<br>of the usual reckoning I circumcised my son Isaac. May the Lord cause him to grow up to the study of the law, for the wedding canopy and for good deeds. Amen. <sup>1</sup> |
|---|---|

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<sup>1</sup>[Entries in the right hand column are translated from the Hebrew.]



2. Monday Nov. 23<sup>d</sup> 1756 Michl. Heshvan 5517. David son of  
Judah His son David at Meir. May the Lord cause him  
Norwalk. to grow, etc.
3. Sunday Febry 12: 1757 Sunday 13th Shebat 5517 Aaron  
Moses Lopez's son Aaron son of Moses Lopez and on the  
4. and Aaron Lopez his son same day Joseph son of Aaron  
Joseph at Rhode Island. Lopez.
5. Wednesday Dec<sup>r</sup>. 21<sup>st</sup> 1758. 10th Tebet 5518 Benjamin son  
Myer Benjamin his son Ben- of Meir.  
jamin at Philipse's Manor.
6. Thursday April 13: 1758. 5 Nissan 5518 Elijah son of  
Aaron Cardozo's son Elias Aaron Cardozo.  
in New York.
7. [October] 19<sup>th</sup>: 1758 Fry- On the middle days of Taber-  
day. [Ash]er Myers's son nacles Joseph son of Meir 5519.  
in New York.
8. Thursday Nov. 2<sup>d</sup>. 1758. Is. 2nd Heshvan 5519. Gedaliah  
Solomons his son Gedaliah son of Isaac.  
in New York.
9. Sunday June 3<sup>d</sup> 1759. Moses 8 Sivan 5519. Isaac son of  
B. Franks's son Isaac in Moses Franks.  
N York.
10. Tuesday July 8<sup>th</sup> 1760. Levy 24 Tammuz 5520. Meir son of  
Michaels's son Myer at Judah.  
South Haven L: Island.
11. Thursday Augt. 14<sup>th</sup> 1760 2 Elul 5520, Aaron son of Meir.  
Myer Levy's son Aaron at  
Spottswood N: Jersey.
12. Sunday Sept<sup>r</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> 1760. 11<sup>th</sup> Tishri 5521, Asher son of  
Isaac Hays's son Asher in Isaac Hays.  
New York.
13. Sunday May 9<sup>th</sup> 1762. 16 Iyar 5522 Isaac son of Moses  
Moses Lopez his son Isaac, Lopez.  
in R: I.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 14. Thursday, July 2: 1762<br>Hyam Myers's son Jacob in<br>New York.   | 10 Tammuz 5522 Jacob son of<br>Hayyim.                                    |
| 15. Fryday, July 10 <sup>th</sup> 1762. My<br>son Moses in New York.   | 18 Tammuz 5522 my son Moses.  |
| 16. Monday, Aug <sup>t</sup> . 29 <sup>th</sup> 1762.<br>Asher Myers's son Moses in<br>N York.               | 11 Elul 5522 Moses son of<br>Asher.                                       |
| 17. Sunday Jan <sup>ry</sup> 2, 1763. Ja-<br>cob Rod. Rivera's son Abr <sup>m</sup> .<br>in R: Island.       | 17 Tebeth 5523 Abraham son<br>of Jacob Rivera.                            |
| 18. Monday Feb: 21 <sup>st</sup> 1763.<br>Isaac Isaac's son Joseph at<br>Jam <sup>a</sup> : Long Island.     | 9 Adar 5523 Joseph son of Isaac.  |
| 19. Sunday Aug <sup>t</sup> 7: 1763. Jonas<br>Phillips his son Uriah in<br>New York.                         | 28 Ab 5523 Uri son of Jonah.  |
| 20. Sunday Sept <sup>r</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> 1764.<br>David Jacobs his son Jacob,<br>N York.                 | 5 Elul 5524 Jacob son of David.   |
| 21. Monday Jan <sup>ry</sup> 21 1765. Levy<br>Moses's son Daniel in ye<br>Prison at Jamaica, Long<br>Island. | 28 Tebeth Daniel son of Judah.  |
| 22. Fryday March 15: 1765.<br>Isaac Isaacs son Henry at<br>Jamaica on Long Island.                           | 22 Adar 5525 Zebbee son of Isaac.   |
| 23. Saturday Mar: 8. 1766.<br>Asher Myers's son Sampson<br>in New York.                                      | 27 Adar 5526 Samson son of<br>Asher.                                      |
| 24. On the same day Eleazer<br>Ben Zaken his son Abra-<br>ham.   | On the same day Abraham son<br>of Eleazer ben Zaken.                      |
| 25. Sunday Sept <sup>r</sup> 21: 1766.<br>Sam <sup>l</sup> . Judah's son Jehutiel<br>in N York.              | 2nd day of the middle days of<br>Succoth 5527 Yekuthiel son of<br>Samuel. |

*Miscellaneous Items Relating to Jews in New York.* 153

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 26. Tuesday Dec <sup>r</sup> 2 <sup>d</sup> 1766 Myer Polock's son Isaac, in Rhode Island at y <sup>e</sup> 8th day. No: rec <sup>d</sup> . ye Acc <sup>t</sup> fryday & got there next eving at 12 oClock. | 1 <sup>st</sup> Tebeth 5527 Isaac son of Myer Polock.                                       |
| 27. Saturday Jan <sup>ry</sup> 31 <sup>st</sup> 1767 My son Hyam in the Synagogue New York.   | 2 of 1 <sup>st</sup> Adar 5527 my son Hayyim in the synagogue of the K. K. Sheerith Israel. |
| 28. Sunday Feb <sup>ry</sup> 15 <sup>th</sup> 1767 Samuel the son of M <sup>r</sup> . David Jacobs New York.  | 16 of 1 <sup>st</sup> Adar 5527 Samuel son of David Levy.                                   |
| 29. Saturday June 1767. Abraham son of Hyam Levy N: York.   | 16 Sivan 5527 Abraham son of Hayyim Levy.   |
| 30. Wednesday October 14 <sup>th</sup> 1767. Samuel Judah's son Jacob New York.   | Hosha'ana Rabba 5528 Jacob son of Samuel.   |
| 31. Tuesday October 27 <sup>th</sup> 1767 M <sup>r</sup> . Abraham Lopez aged 56. att Tiverton.   | 4 Heshvan 5528 Abraham Lopez (married)  |
| 32. at the same time his son Moses aged 28.   | on the same day his son Moses Lopez (unmarried).  |
| 33. at the same time his son Samuel aged 24.  | on the same day his son Samuel Lopez (unmarried).   |
| 34. at the same time his son Jacob aged 17.   | On the same day his son Jacob Lopez (unmarried).  |
| 35. Tuesday Feb <sup>ry</sup> 9: 1768 Myer Myers's son Judah in N York.   | 21 Shebat 5528 Judah son of Meir.   |
| 36. Wednesday Feb: 17 <sup>th</sup> 1768. Jonas Phillips son David Machado Phillips in New York.  | Eve of the new moon of Adar 5528 David son of Jonah.  |

37. Sunday April 10<sup>th</sup> 1768. 23 Nisan 5528 Gabriel son of Asher Myers's son Gabriel in New York. Asher.
38. Sunday April 7<sup>th</sup> 1768. New Moon of Iyar Joshua son of Aaron Lopez's son Joshua in R: Island. of Aaron Lopez.  
N. B. Went from N Y: Fry-day 5: Ap: & return'd fry-day 22d.
39. Wednesday May 18. 1768. 2 Sivan 5528 Nathan son of Nap: Hart Jun<sup>r</sup>: his son Naphtali. Nathan in Rhode Island.
40. Sunday August 14. 1768. 2 Elul 5528 Jacob son of Michael Michael Hays's son Jacob in Hays. New York.
41. Monday Sept<sup>r</sup>. 26: 1768. 1st day of Succoth 5529 Moses son of Judah. Levy Moses's son Moses in the prison at Jamaica L: Island.
42. Saturday Nov<sup>r</sup>. 5: 1768. My 25 Heshvan 5529 my son Joseph. son Joseph in New York.
43. Thursday Oct<sup>r</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> 1769. 4 Tishri 5530 Joseph son of Moses. Moses Hyam's son Joseph in New York aged 2 y<sup>s</sup>.
44. On the same day his son On the same day his son Judah. Judah. aged 13 months.
45. On Thursday Oct<sup>r</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> 1769. 11 Tishri 5530 Mordecai Gomez son of Uri. Uriah Hendrick's son Mordecai Gomez in N Y.
46. On Wednesday March 7<sup>th</sup> 1770. 10<sup>th</sup> Adar 5530 Jacob son of Eleazer Ben Zaken's son Jacob in New York. Eleazer ben Zaken.
47. On Thursday March 8<sup>th</sup> 1770. 11 Adar 5530 Jacob son of Judah. Levy Moses's son Jacob in ye Prison at Jamaica Long Island.

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|---|---|
| 48. On Wednesday March 28:<br>1770. Michael Hays's son<br>Solomon in New York.  | 2 Nisan 5530 Solomon son of<br>Michael Hays.                  |
| 49. On Sunday Sept <sup>r</sup> 23 <sup>d</sup> 1770.<br>Myer Jacob's son Abraham<br>in N York.                           | 4 Tishri 5531 Abraham son of<br>Meir.                         |
| 50. On Monday. Jan <sup>ry</sup> 21: 1771.<br>Myer Myers's son Moses, in<br>N York.                                       | 6 Shebat 5531 Moses son of<br>Meir.                           |
| 51. On Sunday Mar: 10 <sup>th</sup> 1771.<br>Uriah Hendricks's son<br>Menahem [Harmon] in N<br>York.                      | 28 Adar 5531 Menahem son of<br>Uri.                           |
| 52. On Thursday June 6 <sup>th</sup> 1771.<br>Eleazer Levy his son Myer,<br>in New York.                                  | 24 Sivan 5531 Meir son of Elea-<br>zer Levy.                  |
| 53. On Sunday July 7 <sup>th</sup> 1771.<br>Hyam Levy's son Aaron in<br>New York.   | 25 Tammuz 5531 Aaron son of<br>Hayyim Levy.                   |
| 54. On Fryday Mar: 27: 1772.<br>Eleazer Ben Zaken's son<br>Jacob in N Y.  | 22 of Veadar 5532 Jacob son of<br>Eleazer ben Zaken.          |
| 55. On Monday April 20: 1772.<br>Uriah Hendricks's son<br>Aaron in New York.  | First day of the middle days of<br>Passover Aaron son of Uri. |
| 56. On Tuesday May y <sup>e</sup> 12 <sup>th</sup><br>1772. David Hays's son<br>Jacob in Bedford.                         | 9 Iyar 5532 Jacob son of David<br>Hays.                       |
| 57. On Sunday June 14 <sup>th</sup> 1772.<br>Joseph Simons's son Sim-<br>cha in N York aged 6<br>Weeks. In the Synagogue. | 13 Sivan 5532 Simcha son of<br>Joseph.                        |
| 58. On Tuesday Aug <sup>t</sup> 18 <sup>th</sup> 1772.<br>Moses Cohen's son Isaac in<br>New York aged 7 Weeks.            | 19 Ab 5532 Isaac son of Moses<br>Cohen.                       |

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 59. On Thursday Sept <sup>br</sup> 3 <sup>d</sup> 1772. Myer Jacobs son Moses, in N York.                                 | 5 Elul 5532 Moses son of Meir.   |
| 60. On Wednesday Sept <sup>br</sup> 16 <sup>th</sup> 1772. Joseph Abrms. his son Abraham de Lyon, aged 1 month in N York. | 18 Elul 5532 Abraham de Lyon son of Joseph.                                  |
| 61. On Sunday Oct <sup>r</sup> . 11: 1772. Eleazer Levy's son Samuel in N Y.  | Eve of Tabernacles 5533 Samuel son of Eleazer.                               |
| 76. <sup>1</sup> On Thursday Feb. 8 <sup>th</sup> : 1776. Abraham Waag's son Mordecai in New York.                        | 18 Tebeth 5536 Mordecai son of Abraham Waag.                                 |
| 77. On Fryday Aug <sup>t</sup> 2 <sup>d</sup> 1776. My son Menahem Israel in Bowery lane New York.                        | 17 Ab 5536 my son Menahem Israel.  |
| 78. On Thursday Nov <sup>r</sup> 28 <sup>th</sup> 1776 Joseph Simons's son Hananel in New York.                           | 17 Kislev 5537 Hananel son of Joseph.  |
| 79. On Tuesday July 28 1778. Haym Solmss. son Ezekiel in N York.  | 4 Ab 5538 Ezekiel son of Hayyim.   |
| 80. On Sunday April 2 <sup>d</sup> , 1780. Soln. Solomons's son Isaac in N York aged 7 months.                            | 26 second Adar Isaac son of Solomon 5540.                                    |
| 81. On Monday Jan <sup>y</sup> 8. 1781 Nathan son of Hazan I. Touro in N: York.   | 15 Tishri 5541 Nathan son of Isaac Touro Hazan in our midst Sheerith Israel. |

[No. 73]

1759—Facsimile of Jonas Phillips' Certificate of Freeman-ship & Citizenship in the colony of New York signed by Sybrant G. Van Schaick, Mayor.

Sybrant G: Van Schajek Esq<sup>r</sup> Mayor and the Alderman of the City of albany To all To whome these presents Shall Come

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<sup>1</sup> [1 page missing, containing Nos. 62-75 inclusive.]

Send Greting Whereas Jonas Phillips merchant hath made application to be made freman and Citizen of the said City These are therefore to Certify and Declare that Jonas Phillips is hereby admitted Received and allowed a Freman and Citizen of the Same City To have hold use and Enjoy all the benefits Liberties Privileges Franchisses Freedom and Immunities whatsoever Granted or belonging to the Same City In Testemoney Whereof the Said Mayor hath hereunto Subscribed his name and Caused the Seal of the City to be affixed the thirteenth day of aug<sup>t</sup>. in the thirtieth third year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Second by the Grace of God of Great Briton France and Ireland Defender of Faith &c 1759

SYBRANT G: VAN SCHAIK

Fac-simile <sup>1</sup> of Certificate of Jonas Phillips to be made a Free-man of the State of New-York, August 13th 1759.—The wife of the above Jonas Phillips was my Grandmother; she was born in Stone Street, in the City of New-York, and died 25 years ago, aged 88 years, my father is still living aged 84 years.

JONAS N. PHILLIPS

Pres<sup>t</sup>. Board of Councilmen 1857

[No. 211]

5523 [1763]. Formal letter in Hebrew to Mr. Haym Levy in New York appointing him Gabay for our Brethren in Hebron, to collect money for their support, relief of captives, etc.

[No. 104]

[October 21, 1794. Bill of Sale of the brig "The Farmer," of New York, by Isaac Joao da Silva, merchant of New York City, owner, to Isaac M. Gomez of New York City. Consideration £1600. Document recites that ship was built at Hudson, N. Y., and has been duly registered.]

[No. 264]

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<sup>1</sup> [The facsimile referred to, with notation, appears in Valentine's "Manual" for 1858, facing page 562.]

[Document dated March 21st, 1797, signed by Richard Varick, Mayor of New York, certifying that Isaac Hayman Levy, aged 33, is a native of the City and State of New York and a citizen of the United States.]

[No. 90]

[July 31, 1805. Passport of Judah Lyons, a native citizen of the United States, signed by De Witt Clinton, Mayor of New York City.]

[No. 31]

Tombstone inscription for Miss Rachel Pinto. No date.  
[She died October 30, 1815.]

[No. 300]

*New York Enquirer*, Saturday, July 8, 1826, edited by M. M. Noah. Vol. 1, No. 3. Printed. [See G. Herbert Cone, *Publications* No. 11, pp. 131-137, especially p. 135.]

[No. 3]

Advice of Dr. Peixotto not to observe the fast Tishabeab during the Cholera Season, 1832. Printed Circular.

NEW YORK, August 1, 1832.

Sir,

I deem it my duty to call your attention to the propriety of so modifying the observance of the Fast, which takes place on the ninth of Ab, (Sunday next,) as not to expose those who strictly keep it, to incur the pestilential disease which has been, and is still devastating our once healthy metropolis. It has been my lot every year to be called upon to render professional assistance to one or more persons suffering under more or less severe attacks of disease, from the effects of abstinence long continued, aggravated by the operations of intense heat in-



cident to the season. If such causes operate in healthful seasons, what may not be apprehended from them in a season like the present?

The benign spirit of our laws, if I am not much mistaken, authorises a latitude in the construction of its letter, whenever the lives, healths, or important interests of the community require it. There never was a more imperative necessity for such liberal interpretation, than exists at the present moment. It is a notorious fact, that the Cholera first broke out in Smyrna among our people after their strict observance of a Fast Day.

Allow me then to suggest, that on the present occasion a slight meal, say of coffee, tea, or cocoa, with dry toast, be allowed at early rising, and a few draughts through the day of toast-water, or tea. This will obviate any mischief which might otherwise result from severe abstemiousness in the first place; or secondly, from too sudden repletion occasionally indulged on the breaking of the fast.

Very respectfully,

DANIEL L. M. PEIXOTTO, M. D.<sup>1</sup>

[No. 4]

*Noah's Weekly Messenger*, Sunday, July 23, 1843, Volume 1 No. 2. Office 28 Ann St., N. Y. Printed. [Compare G. Herbert Cone, *supra*.]

[No. 2]

1852-1876. Papers of Jewish Theological Seminary and Scientific Institution—Tax receipts of City of Yonkers referring to its property at Yonkers and other items.

[No. 282]

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<sup>1</sup> [Dr. Daniel L. M. Peixotto was a son of Rev. M. L. M. Peixotto. He was president of the New York County Medical Society during the years 1830 and 1831. See Daniel P. Hays, *Publications*, No. 26, pp. 219-229.]

[1855—Meetings and Minutes in regard to establishing an Institution where newly arrived or unemployed Jewish poor might be employed at their respective trades and thereby be prevented from becoming objects of charity.]

1855—Constitution of the American Hebrew Agricultural Association.

[No. 219]

January 14, 1859. Appeal for the persecuted Cretans, issued by the Clergy of New York.

[No. 228]

[Contemporary newspaper clippings of laying of the cornerstone of the Jews' Hospital, New York; the consecration of B'nai Jeshurun Educational Institution; and newspaper comment, 1860, on Dr. Morris J. Raphall's officiating at opening of House of Representatives.]

[No. 336]

Newspaper clipping giving an account of the presentation of a flag to the Anthon Batallion, with an address by Mrs. Commodore Levy. [The clipping is from an undated and unnamed New York newspaper. The presentation of the flag by Mrs. Levy is known, however, to have taken place not long after the death of her husband, Commodore Uriah P. Levy, in March 1862.]

[No. 337]

# ITEMS RELATING TO THE SEIXAS FAMILY.

## SEIXAS FAMILY REGISTERS.<sup>1</sup>

Abraham Mendes Seixas } Died in London in 1738 and 1739, leav-  
and } ing one son named Isaac and two  
Abigail Mendes Seixas } daughters, Judith and Rebecca.

Isaac Mendes Seixas } was born in Lisbon, Portugal, on  
son of Abraham and } Thursday, 1st day of *Rosh Hashonah*,\*  
Abigail Mendes Seixas } 5470, *Tishri* \* 1, September 5, 1709.  
He arrived in New York in 1738 and  
died in Newport, R. I., 5542, *Heshvan* \*  
19, November 5, 1781.

Rachel Levy, } was born in London, England, on  
1st daughter of Moses } Wednesday 5479 *Shebat* \* 19, February  
and Grace Levy of } 8, 1719, and died 5557 *Iyar* \* 16, May 12,  
Spanish Town, } 1797.  
West Indies }

[A] Married

5500 May 1740

Isaac of Abm. M. Seixas and Rachel of Moses Levy.

Their children were

1. Abraham	born in New York	1741 November	Died next June
2. Abigail	" " "	" 1742	Married Hillel Judah
3. Moses	" " "	" 1744, March 28	" Jochebed Levy, of }
4. Gershom	" " "	" 1746, January 15	" Elkela Cohen and }
			Anne [MS. blank— }
			Hannah Manuel]
5. Benjamin	" " "	" 1748, January 28	" Zipporah H. Levy
6. Abraham	" " "	" 1751, March	" Richea Hart, of }
			Charleston}
7. Grace	" " "	" 1752, Novbr. 28	" Simon Nathan
8. Raphael	" " "	" 1756	Died in infancy, 7 months

<sup>1</sup> [The original consists of two MSS. in which all the following data are given but not in chronological order. The material has been arranged systematically, so as to present a complete record for ready reference. See also N. Taylor Phillips, *Publications*, No. 4, pp. 189-214.]

2. *Abigail Seixas Judah* died September 4, 1819, in Richmond Va.
3. *Moses Seixas* died November 29, 1809.
4. *Gershom Mendes Seixas* (born 1745, from mother's prayer book.)

Married to Elkelah Myers Cohen, only daughter of Abm. and Sarah M. Cohen, at New York. They begot:

Sarah	Benjamin
Rebecca	David

His second wife was Anne, daughter of [MS. blank] They begot:

Joshua	Samuel	Henry	Theodore
Lucy	Selina		

Rev. G. Seixas died July 2, 1816, 70 y., 5 m. 17 das. in the 50th year of his ministry.

5. *Benjamin Mendes Seixas* (born 1747, from mother's prayer book) died August 16, 1817. For detailed record see [B]
6. *Abraham Seixas*, according to mother's prayer book, born in 1750. Married in 1777 in Charleston, S. C., to Richea, second daughter of Joshua Hart. Abraham Seixas died April 9, 1799.
7. *Grace Mendes Seixas* died November 8, 1831. [Aged 79 years.]<sup>1</sup> Buried in Beth Haim in Oliver Street. Her remains were disinterred and re-interred in the Beth Haim, Long Island, in the private plot of her grandson, Mendes Nathan, on Kislef 15, 5616, [November 25, 1855]. She married Simon Nathan, a native of England, who died September 8, 1822. I. M. Seixas Nathan, son of Simon and Grace Nathan was born in New York, May 24, 1785. He married, November 30, 1808, Sara, daughter of Benjamin M. Seixas. For further details concerning the children of this couple, see [J].

[B] Married  
in Philadelphia  
1779 January 27

Benjamin of Isaac M. Seixas  
and  
Zipporah of Hayman M. Levy.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> [Thus in MS. No. 5.]

<sup>2</sup> [This was the well-known merchant Hayman Levy. It was only when signing his name in Hebrew that he would write it Hayman the son of Moses.]

## Their children were:

Names	Date of birth	Marriages	Deaths
Abigail	1779 Decbr 3		1782 June 6
Moses B.	1780 October 24	1808 Nov 9 Judith Levy	1838 Dec. 28
See [C]			[1839 Dec. 28] <sup>1</sup>
Isaac B.	1781 Novbr 22	1809 May 31 Rebecca Judah	1839 Augt 10
See [D]			
Rebecca B.	1782 Novbr 10	1806 Aug 13 Bernard Hart	
See [E]			
Abigail 2nd	1784 June 23	1804 Jany 25 Benjn Phillips	1860 July 30
See [F]			
Abraham	1786 January 22	1821 April 11 Rachel Cardoso	1834 Augt 28
See [G]			
Solomon	1787 May 5	1815 Febr 1 Hetty Gomez	1840 Oct 7
See [H]			Aged 54
Esther B.	1789 March 31	1823 October 8 Naftaly Phillips	
See [I]			
Sara	1791 Febr 27	1808 Novbr 3 Seixas Nathan	1834 Augt 5
See [J]			
Hayman L	1792 Decbr 14	1824 Septbr 8 Abby Cardoso	
See [K]	[1792 Octbr 14] <sup>2</sup>		
Grace	1794 July 15	1815 April 5 Jacob I. Cohen	Augt 21 1866
See [L]			
Jacob B.	1795 July 30		1854 March 15
Aaron	1796 Septbr 14	[Not Married] <sup>1</sup>	1849 June 28
Rachel	1798 Septbr 7	1823 March 19 Dr. Daniel Peixotto	
See [M]	[1798 Septbr 9] <sup>1</sup>		
Daniel	1800 May 6		1865 March 19
Miriam	1802 January 12	1832 Febr 1 Dd. M. Moses	1833 July 25
See [N]			
Leah	1805 Febr 11		

[C] *Moses B. Seixas*

married Novbr. 9, 1808 to Judith Levy, daughter of Jacob and E. Levy. Of them were born

Benjamin	January 24th 1811	28 Tebet 5571	Died 1871 May 26
		1st day <i>Shabuoth</i> *	
	he had married 2nd Christian wife not buried in		
		<i>Beth Haim</i> *	
Jacob	July 18 1812	9 Ab 5572	
Zipporah	May 25 1814	1st <i>Shabuoth</i> *	6 Sivan 5574
Isaac	March 15 1816	Died Novbr 4 1817	
	Adar 15 5576	<i>Heshvan</i> *	24 5578
Esther	Novbr 6 1818		
	<i>Heshvan</i> *	8 5579	

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<sup>1</sup> [In MS. No. 5.]

Myra	December 6, 1820	
Abigail	December 12 1822	
John B. Yates	December 7th 1824	
Arch McIntyre	1827	Died 26 February 1829
Hayman	September 16 1829	
Joseph	November 29 1831	
Solomon	January 30 1834	
Emily	April 6 1836	
Sara	1839	

[D] *Isaac B. Seixas*

married to Rebecca daughter of Hillel and Abigail Judah. Of them were born:

Abigail	June 23 1811	
Benjamin	January 31 1813	Died July 1813
Hillel	August 13 1814	Married to Eleanor daughter of Jacob & Grace Cohen Decbr 22d 1847
Zipporah	August 12 1816	
See [H]		
Benjamin 2nd	August 26 1818	Died January 16 1840
Gershon	August 12 1820	
Rachel	January 1 1821	
Sloé Virginia	1826	Died June 1827

[E] *Rebecca B. Seixas*

married to Bernard Hart; born Decbr. 25, 1764. Of them were born:

Phoebe Rosa	August 13 1807	Died October 12 1815
Zipporah	October 11 1808	
Manuel	October 29 1809	
Benjamin	July 8, 1811	
Samuel	March 25 1813	Died Decbr 25 1813
Abigail	January 14 1815	
Henry	April 5, 1817	Died Novbr 16 1850 33 y. 7 m. 11 d.
David	March 29 1819	
Theodore	July 23 1821	
Grace Rosa	Novbr 29 1823	
Daniel	Decbr 21 1827	

[F] *Abigail Seixas*

married to Benjamin I. Phillips. [Died in New York 1830, aged 54 years.]<sup>1</sup> Of them were born.

Jonas	October 28th 1805	
Benjamin	Decbr 10 1810	
Zipporah	Decbr 31 1812	
Israel	March 26 1816	
Rebecca	Febry 22 1813	Died July 9 1818
Henry	May 19 1819	
Hetty	Janry 5 1821	
Eugenia	August 12 1827	Died Decbr 29 1829

[G] *Abraham Seixas*

Married to Rachel N. Cardoso in Charleston, S. C. Of them were born:

David	January 30 1823	
Zipporah Virginia	Septbr 3 1824	
Benjamin	June 20 1826	Died Jany 22 1828
Madison	August 1829	
Miriam	March 15 1834	

[H] *Solomon Seixas*

married to Ester, daughter of Isaac and Abby Gomez; of them were born:

Benjamin	Nov. 14 1815	Married to Zipporah, daughter of Isaac B. Seixas, Nov. 6, 1839. See also [D].
Isaac <sup>2</sup>	June 8 1817	Married Rachel Judah, daughter of Moses Judah of Richmond, Nov. 27, 1839.
Gershom Mendez	March 19 1819	

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<sup>1</sup> [Thus in MS. No. 5.]

<sup>2</sup> Children of Isaac and Rachel Judah Seixas:

Solomon Pesoa Born Jan. 7 1842 Died Dec. 6 1842

Norman Seixas Dec. 9 1843

Leslie Pesoa

Seixas March 30 1847

[I] *Ester Seixas*

married to Naphtali Phillips, Parnass, October 8, 1823; of them were born:

A. Moratto	July 2nd 1825
Ruben	July 5 1826
Rachel	March 27 1828
Sarah	March 11 1829
Zipporah	February 21 1833

[J] *Sara Seixas*

married to I. M. Seixas Nathan, November 30, 1808. Of them were born:

Names	Dates of birth	Marriages
Grace	5570 Tishri 6	5603 Kislef 20 J. J. Lyons
	1809 Septbr 17	1842 Novbr 23
Jonathan	5571 Shebat 20	5600 Sivan 16 Rebecca G. Moses in Phila.
	1811 Febr 14	1840 June 17
Zipporah	5572 Ab 4	Died January 1819
	1812 July 6	
Benjamin	5574 Kislef 23	5596 Sivan 9 Emily G. Hendricks
	1813 Decbr 20	1836 May 25
Rachel	5576 Kislef 11	1836 May 5 Montague M. Hendricks
	1815 Decbr 13	5596 Iyar 18
Simon Mendes	5577 Eloul 29	5604 Iyar 18 Rebecca Solomons
	1817 Septbr 10	1844 May 7
Esther	5579 Shebat 12	5601 Heshvan 16 Moses Lazarus
	1819 Febr 7	1840 Novbr 11
Gershon	5581 Eloul 29	5614 Tishree 24 Rosalie Gomez
	1821 Septbr 26	1853 October 26
Miriam	5583 Nisan 18	5604 Tebet 18 Saml N. Judah
	1823 March 30	1844 January 10
Clara	5585 Shebat 3	
	1825 Jan 22	
Elvira	5586 Heshvan 3	5613 Tishree 30 David H. Solis
	1826 Novbr 24	1852 October 13
Rebecca	5588 Tamooz 22	5614 Menahem 14 Albert Cardozo
Washington	1828 July 4	1854 August 16
Rowena	5590 Shebat 14	5611 Shebat 12 Lewis M. Morrison
	1829 Febr 7	1851 January 15
Israel Robert	5591 Heshvan 23	5619 Tebet 29 Anne Florance in Phila.
	1831 October 30	1859 Janry 5
Myrtilla	5593 Ab 1	
	1833 July 17	



[K] *Hyman L. Seixas*

married Septbr 8 1824 to Abby Cardoso; of them were born:

Sarah	July 1 1825	
Benjamin	August 16 1827	
Isaac	Novbr 9, 1829	Died April 29 1834
Solomon	Jany 25 1832	
Zipporah	Jany 25 1834	
Isaac Cardoso	March 7 1836	
Abraham	May 7 1839	
Moses	June 8 1841	
Eugene	November 1 1844	

[L] *Grace Seixas*

married to Jacob I. Cohen, son of Gershom and Rebecca Cohen;  
of them were born:

Rebecca	May 7 1816	Died May 11, 1871
Benjamin	August 15 1817	Married Novbr 4 1839
		Died February 9th Tuesday night ¼ past 11 <i>Shebat</i> * 26

Gershom	Decbr 29 1818
Zipporah	August 15 1820
Catharine	Febry 11 1822
Eleanor	October 31 1823
Miriam	October 29 1825
Daniel	Septbr 30 1827
Sarah	Septbr 15 1829
Eugenia	Novbr 6 1831
Phillip	October 12 1833

[M] *Rachel Seixas*

married to Dr. Daniel L. M. Peixotto, son of Rev. M. L. M.  
Peixotto; of them were born:

Judith	Decbr 29 1823
Zipporah	Novbr 18 1825
Sarah	Jany 26 1828
Moses L. M.	Febry 17 1830
Rebecca	August 30 1832
Benjn Franklin	Novbr 13 1834
Raphael	
Miriam	

[N] *Miriam Seixas*

married to David Machado Moses February 1st 1832;  
of them were born:

A. Monetto            Septbr 14 1832  
Do Do                July 2 1833

*Hayman M. Levy*, father of Zipporah [who was the] wife of Benjamin M. Seixas, was born in Hanover, January 15, 1721. Died in New York, August 20, 1789, aged 68. On May 26, 1751, he was married in New York by the Rev. Benjamin M. Pereyra to Sloé Myers, daughter of Solomon Myers. She was born in New York in 1728, and died there April 5, 1811, aged 83. Their children, according to the Records of the Congregation, were:

Reyna	born	1753	married Isaac Moses	Died	June 24, 1824 <sup>1</sup>
Haya Sara				"	May 5, 1763
Zipporah	born	1760, January 15 <sup>2</sup>	" Benjamin M. Seixas	"	Aug. 20, 1832
See [B]					
Deborah	"	1761 April 17		"	in Infancy
Deborah	"	1762, June 2		"	30 Aug. 1821
					in New York
Isaac	"	1763, October 15		"	19 April 1854
Solomon	"	1764 December 18	" Rebecca Hendricks	"	7 <sup>3</sup> Jany 1841
Abraham	"	1767 June 6		"	20 Sept 1767
Sara	"	1768 October 1		"	11 April 1855
Richea	"	1770 Janry 3		"	5 Oct 1788
Aaron	"	1771 June 30	" Richea Moses	"	24 Oct 1852

Isaac M. Gomez died Dec. 5, 1831, aged 64 years.<sup>4</sup>

Jacob Seixas, a native of France, died in New York, June 23, 1821, at 16 minutes past 11 A. M. in the 63d year of his age.

Aaron Judah married Rachel R. Gomez, daughter of Isaac & Abby Gomez on the 3d Feby, 1819.

This information from children of Abm. M. Seixas on the day of his burial 27 February 1867, not from any book or memorandum:

Isaac M. Seixas } married in Charleston, S. C.  
Abigail Valencia }

<sup>1</sup> Aged 71 years, widow of the late Mr. Isaac Moses who died April 1818. [Thus in MS. No. 5.]

<sup>2</sup> [January 16 in MS. No. 5.]

<sup>3</sup> [January 9 elsewhere in this MS.]

<sup>4</sup> [Thus in MS. No. 5.]

## Their children were:

Abm. M.	married Hannah Pardo
Sarah	" Elias Henriques
Benjn	not married yet nearly 50 years old now
Caroline	died in infancy

## Children of Abm. M. Seixas and Hannah Pardo:

Alfred	born Oct. 6, 1844
Benjn	" July 21, 1846
Abigail	" Sept. 25, 1847
Emily	" " 5, 1848
Jeannet	" Aug. 10, 1849
Sarah	died in New York

[Nos. 5 and 9]

ADDITIONAL SEIXAS GENEALOGY.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Abraham Mendes Seixas, of Lisbon, Portugal, Birthplace not known. Died in London, 1738.

<sup>1</sup> Abigail Mendes Seixas, birthdate not known. Died in London 1739.

<sup>1</sup> They left.

1. one son, Isaac
2. one daughter, Judith.
3. one daughter, Rebecca.

<sup>1</sup> 1. Isaac Mendes Seixas, son of Abm. Mendes Seixas, was born in Lisbon, Portugal, Sept. 5, 1709. Arrived in New York in 1738. Died in Newport, Rhode Island, Nov. 5, 1781, 5542 Heshvan 19. In another record, Heshvan 5, in which case the English date should be October 24.

<sup>1</sup> 2. Judith Mendes Seixas, daughter of Abm. Mendes Seixas, married in London May 1732 to Benjamin Mendes Pacheco and died in 1738.

<sup>1</sup> Rebecca Mendes Seixas, daughter of Abm Mendes Seixas, married in London in 1736 to Daniel Mendes Seixas. She had one daughter Rebecca. Daniel Mendes Seixas died in London in 1758. His widow when last heard of, was living with her daughter Rebecca in Kingston, Jamaica, who married Daniel Brandon Seixas. They had several children.

<sup>1</sup> Rachel Levy, first daughter of Moses and Grace Levy, of Spanish Town, West Indies, was born in London, Febry 8, 1719.

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<sup>1</sup> [These items are the last entries in Book IV, pp. unnumbered.]

Died 1797, May 14. In another record 12th of May, in which case the Hebrew date should be Iyar 16.

<sup>1</sup> Abigail, daughter of Isaac Mendes Seixas and Rachel Levy, married in June 1759 to Hillel Judah. They begat the following children:

- |           |                 |            |                 |
|-----------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|
| 1. Sarah  | born 1760 March | 5. Gershom | born 1768 Sept. |
| 2. Isaac  | " 1762 July     | 6. Manuel  | " 1770 July     |
| 3. Baruch | " 1764 July     | 7. Rachel  | " 1772 July     |
| 4. Jacob  | " 1766 April    | 8. Abraham | " 1774 July     |
|           |                 | 9. Moses   | " 1779 March    |

<sup>1</sup> Moses, son of Isaac Mendes Seixas and Rachel Levy, married Jochebed, 2<sup>d</sup> daughter of Benjamin and Judith Levy of Newport, R. I. They begat:

1. Rachel, 1st wife of Naphtali Phillips
2. Benjamin
3. Judith, married Sam'l Lopez
4. Bella
5. Abigail
6. Grace, 2<sup>d</sup> wife of B. M. Cohen
7. Hetty
8. Isaac

All born in Newport, R. I.

1769. Original letter from Isaac Mendez Seixas to Joseph Symons, Lancaster, introducing his son Gershom.

Mr. Joseph Symons

NEW YORK June 20<sup>th</sup> 1769

S<sup>r</sup>

I begg leave to take this opportunity of my Son's going that way to pay you my & all my family's Compliments of congratulation on the happy Nuptialls of Miss Symon's with our worthy friend Mr. Michael Graatz, we sincerely [wish] <sup>2</sup> you, & Mrs. Symons & all the family joy on the happy occasion, & Pray the Almighty may Grant them his Sacred Blessing, & holy protection, and that they may live happy & be a comfort to your old Age.

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<sup>1</sup> [These items are the last entries in Book IV, pp. unnumbered.]

<sup>2</sup> [MS. torn.]

Permit me, S<sup>r</sup> to Recomend my Son to your particular notice, he has never been so far from home, & if you find anything amiss in his behaviour, impute it favourably to his want of Experience, & Kindly admonish him for it, & Excuse my freedom, our old acquaintance is my only apology: all my family begs to be Kindly remembered to M<sup>rs</sup>. Symons. I humbly take my leave, & Remain

D<sup>r</sup> S<sup>r</sup>. Your very Sincere friend & humb Serv<sup>t</sup>

ISAAC SEIXAS

on back:

With the love of your aft friend and cousin [M. G. ?]

Addressed on back thus

For

M<sup>r</sup>. Joseph Symons

Lancaster

P Son Gershom Seixas

[No. 26]

1778—Letter from Isaac Seixas to Hayman Levy on proposed marriage of his son, Ben. Seixas, to Zipporah Levy.

M<sup>r</sup>. Hayman Levy.

STRATFORD<sup>1</sup> Novemb. 13 1778

S<sup>r</sup>.

It is at the Request of my Son Ben: Seixas that I presume to trouble you with this, to acquaint you that he has inform<sup>d</sup> his Mother, & my Self that he has a very great Regard for y<sup>r</sup>. daughter Miss Zipporah Levy, & shou<sup>d</sup> think himself very happy if he cou<sup>d</sup> obtain your Consent, & approbation, as well as your amiable Spouses & all others connected with the Young Lady in permetting him Soon to be joined to her in the Sacred bonds of Matrimony We have no manner of objection thereto, & most Sincerely wish it may Meet with your Parental approbation, & that it may prove a Source of joy, & happiness to all our families.

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<sup>1</sup> [Quite a few New York Jews had gone to Stratford, Connecticut, on the occupation of New York by the British at the beginning of the Revolution.]

I hope this may find you, good M<sup>rs</sup>. Levy, all the children, & Conexions Enjoying perfect health, M<sup>rs</sup> Seixas, & all our family join with me in our most Respectfull Salutations, & I Remain

S<sup>r</sup>., Your most obedient, & humble Servitor

ISAAC SEIXAS

Addressed on back as follows:

To

M<sup>r</sup> Hayman Levy

Merchant

By Son Ben: Seixas, Philad<sup>a</sup>:

[No. 235]

Summary of translation of *Ketubah* of Levy Solomons and Katherine Manuel.

[Agreement of Levy Solomons of Albany, N. Y., recites his proposed marriage to Katherine Manuel and agrees to support her with "deeceny and sufficiency" and to allow her virgin dowry of 200 Zuzim. Consent of Katherine Manuel thereto. \$800 amount of marriage portion of bride consisting of silver, dresses, household linen etc. increased by gift of Levy Solomons. In event of decease of Levy Solomons, with or without issue, bride to regain marriage portion of \$1200. In reverse case, Levy Solomons to be sole heir of his wife, in accordance with Jewish law. Contract signed by Levy Solomons, July 29, 1801, Benjamin Seixas and Bernd. Hart, witnesses.

Certificate of Gershom M. Seixas, Dec. 20, 1811, testifying to the correctness of his translation of the contract and declaring that the marriage was performed by him according to the Jewish ritual.

Summary of translation of *Ketubah* of Lucius Levy Solomons and Selina Seixas.

Promise of bridegroom to support Selina Seixas and to give her virgin dowry of 200 Zuzim and consent of Selina Seixas

thereto. Amount of marriage portion in gold, silver, wearing apparel, household furniture, etc., equal to £450, increased to £900 by gift of groom. Agreement of groom faithfully to discharge terms of contract. Signed by Lucius Levy Solomons, Samuel Hays and H. Marks witnesses; Levi Phillips officiating at ceremony, March 31, 1824. Affidavit of I. B. Kursheedt as to correctness of translation, July 11, 1831.

Letter from I. B. Kursheedt to George Sullivan, August 23, 1831, giving summary of Jewish law on the obligation of the debt of the contract. Contract is payable before any debt contracted prior or subsequent thereto. Bonds given prior thereto, however, take precedence thereof. Debts to be paid before heirs inherit. Neither wife nor daughters are heirs. Property may be disposed of by will and heirs disinherited, but cannot be disposed to the prejudice of this contract. Husband is sole heir of wife.

Opinion of George Sullivan, Counsel for guardian, as to whether Mrs. S. Solomons is entitled to \$2400 with interest according to marriage contract, at death of husband, or whether she is to participate in the expenses of the estate. Decision that Mrs. S. Solomons is entitled to the amount secured by marriage contract, *i. e.* \$2400, with interest on same from demise of late husband until paid. Signed by Theo. L. Seixas, Sept. 5, 1831, guardian of minor children, in charge of personal estate of Lucius Levy Solomons, deceased.

Compare as to validity of disposition of property at death through Jewish marriage contracts in English law, *Franks vs. Martin*, 1 Eden 309 (1759), 5 Tomlinson P. C. and Albert M. Friedenberg, *Transactions of The Jewish Historical Society of England*, Vol. 6, p. 247.]

[No. 313]

New York, July 13, 1849. Appointment of Seixas Nathan as Inspector of Customs.

[No. 321]

Promise of Halitsah <sup>1</sup> by Edward Morison and  
Henry Morison.

We the undersigned Edward and Henry Morison, brothers of Lewis M. Morison, do hereby solemnly promise and oblige ourselves in the event of the demise of our brother Lewis aforesaid without leaving issue, to perform and assist in the performance of the ceremonies of *Halitsah* \* as prescribed by the ordinances of our wise men of happy memory and in accordance with the Mosaical code in favor of Rowena the daughter of Seixas Nathan of this city, this day married to our brother Lewis aforesaid. We further bind ourselves to perform said ceremonies gratuitously and to facilitate her in the obtaining of said Halitsah without claim of any compensation whatsoever, and without delay. We further admit this writing *Shetar Halitsah* \* (Document of Halitsah) as obligatory upon us in the same manner, as this were written and executed in the form prescribed by our wise men of happy memory, the execution of which cannot be avoided by any pretext or evasion.

New York, Shebat 12, 5611 [1851] corresponding with the fifteenth day of January in the 75th year of the American Independence.

SOLM ISAACS  
SAMUEL LAZARUS  
[No. 163]

E. MORISON  
H. MORISON

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<sup>1</sup> [Halitsah is the ceremony performed by the brothers of a man who dies without issue, freeing them from the duty of marrying the widow, as described in Deut. XXV. 5-10.]



This Witnesseth that I Nathaniel  
Dickins of Newport in Rhode Island Cooper  
have sold for a valuable Consideration in  
hand Received unto Mordecai Campanall &  
Moses Pacheco Jews and to their Nation  
Society or Friends a Piece of Land for a burial  
Place being in Dimensions as followeth, that  
is to say a Piece of Land thirty foot Long,  
Butting South West upon the Highway that  
Leads Down from y<sup>e</sup> Stone Mill towards Benj:  
Griffins Land and thirty foot upon y<sup>e</sup> Line  
Butting Southeast upon John Eastons Land  
and thirty foot upon the Line Northwest  
Butting upon a Slip of Land Which y<sup>e</sup> Said  
Nathaniel Dickins hath yet Remaining  
believe this Piece of Land now sold and y<sup>e</sup>  
Land now belonging unto Benjamin Griffin  
and y<sup>e</sup> Line Northeast Butting also upon y<sup>e</sup>  
said Nathaniel Dickins his Land to be in  
Length forty foot, which said Parcell of Land  
in Dimensions as aforesaid with the Fences  
thereto Pertaining. I have for my self my  
heirs and assigns sold unto y<sup>e</sup> Said Jews their  
heirs and assigns or Successors for them to  
Possess, and enjoy for the uperabovesaid p<sup>er</sup>petu-  
ity from henceforth Making and Maintain-  
ing Substantial Fences Round y<sup>e</sup> Said Land  
but if it should so fall out that y<sup>e</sup> Jews  
should all Depart the Island Again so as  
that these shall be none left to keep up or  
Maintain the Fences as aforesaid then the  
E Said

Said Land shall Return Again to the said  
Nathaniel, Dickins his heirs Executors Ad-  
ministrators or assigns for him or them to  
Possess and Enjoy Again as fully as if no  
such Sale had been made and In Witness  
of the Sale hereof the said Nathaniel Dickins  
have hereunto set his hand & seal this -  
28<sup>th</sup> day of February 1677.

in the presence of  
George Hammond  
James Stuling  
Nathaniel Dickins  
his R<sup>mar</sup>king  
and Seal } and

Entered On Record and Compared with the  
original Decem<sup>r</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> 1678.

ff Thomas Ward Town Clerk

Newport<sup>ts</sup>: The above and foregoing is a  
true Copy as appears on Record in the Book  
of Land Evidence of Newport N<sup>o</sup> 3 Page 11.  
Newport Octob<sup>r</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> A.D. 1767.

Witness W<sup>m</sup> Coddington Town Clerk



Grant of land to  
from Bureau to  
Carpetweaver & Dacher for  
for a small place

1678 m

Received into my  
office for recording  
Sept. Oct 21 1872  
at price of 1000 \$  
and recorded in  
volume 42, p 402  
814. and of entire  
abstract. by  
Benjamin Mearns  
8th Dec.

came from Newport  
on Monday April 19, 1872  
got to Providence Sunday  
April 21, 1872. had my  
bagging done by Mr. May  
April 17th. moved into  
house May 1872.

# ITEMS RELATING TO THE JEWS OF NEWPORT.

February 28, 1677 [-8].<sup>1</sup> Original certified copy of Deed of Jewish Cemetery at Newport.

[No. 10a]

Certified copy of transcript of Dyre Suit against Newport Jews.<sup>2</sup>

At the Gener<sup>ll</sup> Court of Tryalls Held in his  
Majesties Name at Newport the 31. of March 1685.

Present

Grand Jurrors Engaged

Mr William Coddington Goberno<sup>r</sup>

Mr Walter Clarke Dep Goberno<sup>r</sup>

Mr John Easton Assistant

Mr Caleb Carr Assista<sup>n</sup>

Majo<sup>r</sup> John Coggeshall Assist<sup>n</sup>

Majo<sup>r</sup> John Albro Assista<sup>n</sup>

Mr George Lanton Assista<sup>n</sup>

Majo<sup>r</sup> John Green Assista<sup>n</sup>

John Sanford Recorder

Edmund Calverly Gen<sup>l</sup> Serja<sup>n</sup>

Mr Weston Clarke Gen

Treasurer }

Mr John Pococke Gen<sup>l</sup> Attorney }

& Solic }

Mr Phillip Smith foreman

Mr Jonathan Holmes

Mr Robert Tayler

Mr Lawrence Turner

Mr Giles Slocum

Mr William Wilbore

Mr Joseph Morie

Mr Thomas Burge

Mr John Parker

Mr Barth Hunt Sen

Mr John Sisson

Mr Walker Roades

by reason of William Wilbores sickness Mr Henry  
Palmer Engaged on the Grand Jury.

On an Action or Complaint of Majo<sup>r</sup> William Dyre as Surveyor  
Gen<sup>l</sup> against Mordecai Campanel, Saul Brown, Abraham

<sup>1</sup> [This MS. is not in the Lyons Collection, but is the gift of Mr. Samuel Oppenheim to the American Jewish Historical Society. See *Publications*, No. 19, p. 15. See reduced facsimile facing this page.]

<sup>2</sup> [Cf. Samuel Oppenheim, *Publications*, No. 19, pp. 15-16.]

Burgis, Rachel the Widow and Relict of Symon Mendez dec<sup>d</sup> and other Jews fforeign<sup>e</sup> borne—.

ffor want of a declaration in the office according to Law, the defendants enter a nonsuit— The Case in Court Called, the above named Major Dyre the Complainant did not appear only Edward Uster [ ? ] as his Attorney appeared. the Defendants appeared.

Whereas upon the information of Major William Dyre to Our Hono<sup>ed</sup> Gobern<sup>r</sup> against Mordecai Campanell, David, Daniell & Abraham Campanell, Saul Brown, Abraham Burges, Rachell the Widow and Relict of Symon Mendez deceas<sup>d</sup> and Aron Verse, Jews, Our said Gobern<sup>r</sup> granted a warrant to the Generall Serja<sup>t</sup> to sease the said Jews goods or estates answer the said informer his charge against them as Aliens at this Court. And whereas he hath not brought the matter in such forme as Our Law requires: Yett for weighty Reasons moveing, this Court doe see Cause with the defendants Consent that the Action shall Come to Tryall forthwith.

The Case Pleased and Committed to the Jury:

Verdict Wee find for the defendants and that the Plaintiff pay Cost of Court.

The Court accepted the verdict and allow the bill of Cost fifteen Shillings eight pence.

Whereas Major William Dyre Esq<sup>r</sup>, surveyor Gen<sup>l</sup> as informer hath caused the estates of severall Jews viz Mordecai David Daniell & Abraham Campanell Saul Brown and Abraham Burgis Rachell the widow and Relict of Symon Mendiez dec<sup>d</sup> and Aron Verss to be seized to bring to a Tryall as Aliens &c and the Jury haveing found for the defend<sup>ts</sup> and the Informer disappearing in Person, and a Nonsute granted, as also haveing given no bond. The Court therefore unanimously order that the distraint upon the defendants goods be taken off and their Estates so seized be Restored by the Generall Serj<sup>t</sup>

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
COUNTY OF NEWPORT,—SS.  
OFFICE CLERK OF SUPREME COURT.

I THOMAS W. WOOD, Clerk of the Court aforesaid, for and within the State and County aforesaid, do hereby CERTIFY that the foregoing 1½ pages contain a true and correct copy of the *record of Judgment in the case State v Mordecai Campanel et ali as recorded in Book A pages 72 or 74 and 73 or 75 of the records of Judgment of the General Court of Trials* as compared by me this day with the original in this office on the day of A. D., 187

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court, this *third* day of *February* A. D., 1873

THOMAS W WOOD, *Clerk.*

5519—Letter from Congregation at Newport to Congregation at New York, asking assistance to build Synagogue.

NEWPORT R. I. Adar 22<sup>d</sup> 5519 [March 21, 1759]

Gent.

The Pious Intentions of a Congregation yet in its Infancy, we desire may plead a sufficient excuse, for this Address; sincerely desirous to establish a regular Congregation in this Town we therefore, have Lately purchased a suitable Lot of Land, whereon we design to Build a Sinaguogue; & for furthering our said Intentions, we have Likewise by Subscription raised a small Fund, wherewith to Begin, and carry on the Work and which in due Time, we hope to see fully compleated. At present finding our Abilities not equal to our wishes, for finishing the Work, in so short a Time as we desire, we have resolved to crave the Assistance of the several Congregations in America, and as the Feast of the Passover is near at Hand, a Time when there will be the greatest appearance of our Brethen at New York; we embrace this opportunity to acquaint you with our proceedings, and Intentions, relative thereto; Intreating you to communicate the same, to the Congregation,

at New York, & to supplicate for us, their charitable assistance, towards carrying on this work; either by a Freewill Offering in the Synagogue; or Subscription, or in any way which may be agreeable to you.

When we reflect on how much it is our Duty, to Instruct Children, in the Path of Vertuous Religion; & how unhappy the portions must be, of those Children, and their Parents, who are thro necessity, educated in a place where they must remain almost Totally uninstructed, in our most Holy & Divine Law, our Rites & Ceremonies; & from which place, they may perhaps never have it in their power to depart; when we farther reflect on how much it is our Duty to assist the Distressed; & when we consider the extensive Usefullness of a Charity, like this for which we now supplicate assistance; we can entertain no Doubt of your Zeal, to promote this good Work.

That God Almighty will be pleased to direct your Councils, prosper your Vertuous Actions, and Intentions, give us Peace, and very soon send the Redeemer to Zion, is and shall be the Devout Prayer of

Gent.

Your obedient & very hume Servts

JACOB ROD<sup>s</sup> RIVERA  
JACOB ISAACKS

ABM R<sup>s</sup> REVEIRA.

ISAAC POLOCK

I HART

MOSES LOPEZ

ISAAC ELIZER

AARON LOPEZ

MOSES LEVY

To the Gent. the Parnassim of the K. K. Seherit Israel, in New York

[No. 180]

[The synagogue was erected by Peter Harrison, a pupil and associate of Sir Christopher Wren. It was consecrated in 1763. It was within its walls that the Legislature of Rhode Island met for the first time after the evacuation of Newport by the British in September 1780. See Leon Huhner, "Jews of Newport," New York, 1908.]



[1759.] Contemporaneous copy of a letter from New York Congregation to Newport, sending money to build a Synagogue.

Gent<sup>a</sup>.

Conformable to your desire a *Nedaba* \* [offering] was made in our Synagogue the Seventh day of *Pesach* \* when a contribution of £149: 6<sup>d</sup> was offered towards building at New Port a place of worship to Almighty God. your pious design was a sufficient inducement to promote the Success of your request, we heartily wish our mite may enable you to go on with the Holy building and that you maybe a Religious & prosperous Congregation.

We must now desire you will send orders for the money.

We sincerely wish you success in all your Laudable undertakings, and that our God may graciously enable his People to do *Mitsvoth* \* is the unfeign'd prayer of

Gent<sup>a</sup>

[No. 177]

5519—Letter of thanks to K. K. S. I., signed by ten members of Newport Congregation.

NEWPORT Sivan 2<sup>d</sup> 5519—[May 28, 1759]

Gent<sup>a</sup>.

It affords us great satisfaction to find by your Letter of the 3<sup>d</sup> Day of Iyar that our design for Building a publick place of Worship to God Almighty has not only met with approbation but hath Likewise been Zealously supported by our Brethen at New York as appears by the generous Freewill offerings made for that purpose in your Synagogue on the 7<sup>th</sup> Day of *Pesach* \* last—

It is our Inclination & we are truly sensible it is our Duty to return the Congregation at New York our most sincere & publick Thanks for this Instance of their Generous Benevolence towards us and we Intreat You Gentlemen to do this

good office on our Behalf in such manner place & Time as shall seem to you most agreeable.

Your Hearty Wishes for the prosperity of Our Congregation and your sincere wishes for our Success contribute greatly to Incite in us an Ardent desire to compleat the Work which we have now undertaken—

We Intreat you to remit the Monies which you have Collected for this Use to the Care of Mess<sup>rs</sup>. Jacob Rod<sup>s</sup>. Rivera Moses Levy & Isaac Hart in Gold either in Moidors or Johannes's, Moidors will be most advantageous.

We Devoutly join with you in Prayer "That Our God may Graciously enable his People to do *Mitsvoth*,"\* and are with Unfeigned Thanks to Yourselves & the Congregation at New York

Gent<sup>n</sup>.

Your most Obedient humble Serv<sup>ts</sup>

ABM R<sup>s</sup> REVEIRA<sup>1</sup>

ISAAC POLOCK

AARON LOPEZ

MOSES LEVY

JACOB ISAACKS

ISAAC ELIZER

MOSES LOPEZ

I HART

JACOB ROD<sup>s</sup> RIVERA

ISSACHAR POLOCK

Mess<sup>rs</sup>. Myer Myers & Jacob Franks

Addressed on back as follows:

To

Mess<sup>rs</sup> Myer Myers & Jacob Franks

Parnassim of the K. K. Seherit Israel  
at New York.

[No. 178]

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<sup>1</sup> [Each of the persons above mentioned figures prominently in American Colonial commercial and industrial history. For sketches of their careers consult Index volume of *Publications* of American Jewish Historical Society and No. 25, p. 113. See also Daly, "The Settlement of the Jews in North America."]

Care of Messrs. Jacob Rod. Rivera Moses  
Levy & Isaac Hart in Gold either in Mordoor  
for Johanne W. Mordoor will be most advantageous

We devoutly join with you  
in Prayer "that our God may graciously  
enable his People to do <sup>his</sup> will and are with  
unfeigned Thanks to Yourself & the Congregation  
at New York

Gent.

Your most Obedient humble servant

Isaac Rodrik

Moses Levy

Jacob Frank

Isaac Elizer

Moses Lopez

Mary

Isaac Hart

Isaac Rodrik

Messrs. Meyer Meyer & Jacob Frank



1759—Receipt of N. Hart £149.06 towards building Synagogue in Newport from K. K. S. I.

NEW YORK July 13 1759.

Rece<sup>d</sup>. of Myer Myers One Hundred and Forty nine Pounds & Six pence which at my arrival at Newport Rhode Island I promise to deliver to Mess<sup>rs</sup>. Jacob Rivera, Moses Levy & Isaac Hart trustees for building the Synagogue.

£149.0.6

NAPH HART

[No. 179]

[Certified copy (October 7, 1872) of deed, dated June 13, 1759, from Ebenezer Allen and Susanna, his wife, of Sandwich, Barnstable County, Mass., to Jacob Rodriguez Rivera, Moses Levy and Isaac Hart, of lot 92 x 106 on Griffin Street, Newport, R. I., upon which was erected the Newport Synagogue. Consideration £1500. Original recorded at Newport, July 19, 1760.]

[No. 243]

1761—Letter from Naph Hart to Trustees of K. K. S. I., asking further assistance to complete their unfinished Synagogue.

NEWPORT 5<sup>th</sup> April 1761.

Gentlemen

It is a matter of much Concern to the Congregation in this Town among whom I have the Honor to preside as Parnass for the Current year that they are Necessitated again to Supplicate the Charitable assistance of your Congregation who have already Chearfully & Generously Contributed towards finishing our Synagogue—Greatly disappointed in their Expectations from the Charity of other Congregations and the Cost of Building Rising to much more than it was Conceiv'd it would they now find themselves (unless in some way assisted by Other Congregations) unable to Compleat the Build-

ing—I do therefore by their Request intreat your good offices to Obtain the farther assistance of your Congregation towards compleating the Same, either by a free will offering to be made in your Synagogue which to them Seems the most unexceptionable way or in any other method w<sup>ch</sup> you shall judge the most agreeable to Obtain the good purposes Intended—the Congregation here Confidantly Relying on your Good Endeavours and the Zeal of your Congregation to promote so Charitable & useful an undertaking have no doubt but in due time I shall Receive your favourable Answer hereunto—

Wishing you and Each of your Congregation Length of Days with much Felicity, I have the Honor Gentlemen to Subscribe

Your Obedient Servant

NAPH HART

Addressed on back as follows :

To Mess<sup>rs</sup> the Parnassim & Elders of the Jewish Congregation  
In New York

[No. 181]

1761—Letter from Newport to K. K. S. I. introducing  
Abraham and M. Cohen 2 poor men.

Gentlemen— NEWPORT RHODE ISLAND 26<sup>th</sup> May 1761

The Bearers Mess<sup>rs</sup> Abraham & Mathias Cohen Arrived here Last Week in Cap<sup>t</sup> Cuzzins from Savanah Lmar<sup>1</sup> in the Island of Jamaica, and where recommended to us by the Gabay of that Congregation as Objects of Charity, and as Such I take the Liberty to recommend 'em to you & your Congregation— They have with them thier Credentials from the Several Congregat<sup>s</sup> to the Same Effect, We on our parts have Contrebutted as much as the Nature of our affairs would admitt of at this time and Considering we Our Selves Are petitioners, hope

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<sup>1</sup> [Savanna-La-Mar.]

there Successes in this Undertaking May Answer thier Expectation—wch is the Sincear wishes of

Gentlemen your Most Obedient & humble Serv<sup>ts</sup>

NAPH HART Parnas

To

Mess<sup>rs</sup> Daniel Gomez & Samuel Hart

Addressed on back as follows:

To

Mess<sup>rs</sup> Daniel Gomez & Samuel Hart

Parnasim of the Holy Congregation Sharith Israel in New York

[No. 173]

1762—Letter of Moses Lopez to J. Simson & S. Judah about subscription of furniture, &c., from New York members.

Mess<sup>rs</sup> Joseph Simson  
& Samuel Judah

} NEWPORT July 25<sup>th</sup> 1762.

Gent<sup>l</sup>./

As we have now contracted with Workmen, who are actually at Work, to compleat the Hechal, Tebah, & Benches of our Synagogue, are in great hopes same will be finished by Rosasanah: We are getting ready such furniture & Utensills as are needfull, for which reason our Mahamad desires me to address this to you, Gentlemen, that you will be so kind as to make enquiry, who made any offerings of Furniture & Ornaments towards this pious undertaking, to receive & forward the same to us with convenient speed; that it may be here ready against the Time of Consecrating the holy Fabrick.

The gratefull sence we have of the Liberal assistance of your K. K. will put us in mind, of giving timely notice of the Dedication Day, that those Gentlemen who please to favor us with their Company may not be disappointed. Underneath I note what offerings came to our notice, if there be any more

we leave to your enquiry, not doubting your Zeal in so Laudable cause.

You will always find in me a ready compliance to whatever Services I can render you, either in my publick or private capacity; wishing you health & prosperity I conclude respectfully

Gen<sup>l</sup>./

A Tamid, from M <sup>r</sup> Samuel Judah	} Your very hum. Servt.
Some Candlesticks for the Heehall &	
the Tebah from M <sup>r</sup> Samuel Hart	
100 lb Wax from M <sup>r</sup> Haym Myers	MOSES LOPEZ
	Parnas

Addressed on back :

To

Mess<sup>rs</sup>. Joseph Simson & Samuel Judah Parnassim of the K. K. Seherit Israel of New York.

[No. 182]

[Act passed by General Assembly at Providence, December 1766, requiring persons suspected of being dangerous or disaffected to take and subscribe the Oath of Allegiance and Adjuration, and on refusal officers may proceed against them for confiscation of property.

This act was repealed in February 1783.]

[No. 314]

[September 4, 1775. Letter from Moses Levy, Newport, to Isaac Moses, acknowledging with satisfaction the New York Congregation's resolution to share expenses of provision and passage to London of the Rev. H. H. Samuel Cohen. Total expenditure amounted to £31.8. 6.]

[No. 183]



Moses Seixas' Accounts of Receipts and Payments of Newport  
Congregation, 1783-1790.

Among the donors appear the following names:

Jacob Rod Rivera,	Abraham Lopez	Isaac Dazevado
Parnas	Aaron Lopez	Moses Seixas
Moses Levy	Hillel Judah	Isaac Polock
Raphael Jacobs	Jacob Phillips	Simon Nathan
Isaac Elizer & son	Joseph De Pass	Manuel Myers
Jacob Isaacks	2 French Gentlemen	Isaac Gomez
David Lopez, Sen.	Moses M. Hays	Joseph Jacobs
Moses Lopez	Moses Gomez, Jun.	Henry Marks
Jacob Lopez	Emanuel Aguilar	Sol. Levy
David Lopez	Elias Hart	Uriah Hendricks
Joseph Lopez		Nathaniel Henriques

Among expenses in 1788 are "Expenses on Rabbi Calveres"  
and "Mr. Judah Salary as Sochet."

[No. 185]

[September 6, 1787.] Copy of Certificate of Kosher Beef  
from Newport to Surinam. Spanish.

[No. 184]

February 4, 1790. Letter of Manuel Josephson<sup>1</sup> of Philadelphia to Moses Seixas of Newport on the subject of reading the law from a printed book and other matters. [MS. torn in several places.]

PHILADELPHIA 4<sup>th</sup> February 1790

Mr. Moses Seixas

Dear Sir

On the 22<sup>d</sup> Decem<sup>r</sup>. Last I was favoured with your obliging Letter of 3<sup>d</sup>. of the same Month; to which for the want of Conveyance have not replied before It's true your Brother in Law

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<sup>1</sup> [Manuel Josephson was president of the Philadelphia congregation, and figures repeatedly in Revolutionary annals. See as to him, Index to *Publications*, and also Index to No. 21.]

Mr. Haym Levy passed through, but his stay was so short as not to afford me time to take Pen in hand— This much for an apology—

By your said favr. you are pleased to inform, that you had perused that part of my Letter to our Sister M<sup>rs</sup> Judah relative to some of your Congregational Matters & Ceremonies in the practice whereof I did point out some improprieties & recommended an alteration In answer thereto you give a circumstantial detail of the situation of your Congregation with the capricious & whimsical disposition of some of the individuals that compose it; at the same time you insinuate, that to recede from & alter your present Mode, would be very impracticable or at best attended with much difficulty, having been adopted not from choice but necessity: nevertheless if ye were convinced, that what I advanced on that subject was the result of Mature deliberation, ye would one & all subscribe to my opinion; These Sentiments do me great honor and are highly flattering, especially in the polite manner you have conveyed them to me: I shall therefore endeavour, and I flatter myself its amply in my power to convince you, that what I wrote is literally just & conformable to our Oral Law as deduced & digested from scripture, and by no means matter of Opinion of my own, for had that been the case, I should have wrote with some degree of diffidence, and common modesty would have pointed out the necessity of “mature deliberation and serious consideration” before I had committed my thoughts to Paper; But as all those matters in question are to be found in our Law books, I did not hesitate to write as they presented themselves to my mind— Permit me here to make a short digression by way of preliminary to the point in hand: Our great & wise Law-writers of old, foreseeing that in after ages some difficulties might probably occur that would require solution, which for the want of Men Learned in our Law to resort to on such occasions might not at all times be found, by which means a doubtful matter might be misconstrued, & exercised contrary to its true intent & meaning; Thereafter ceremonies to a proper & regular system, wherein almost every [MS. torn] be found; Yet if by chance there should arise a doubt concerning some matter or thing which is not clearly & explicitly mentioned (as it would be next to impossible to provide against every minutia that might come to pass) it is generally decided or solved by implication & comparison, and is the business that in general comes before the *Chacham*\* (Chief Rabbi) of a Congregation and by him determined— But the case in question is not of that class, for it is distinctly to be found in all our Law

Books of the first reputation— Having thus much premised shall now proceed to quote some authorities for the satisfaction of your goodself & the rest of our Brethren of your Congreg<sup>n</sup> whome God preserve & multiply— . . . .

[Here follows a theological discussion on the question whether the scroll of the law may be taken out and set on one side while the portion which should be read from it is read from a printed book. In the discussion, Manuel Josephson writes:]

You say Mr Rivera reads Hebrew perfectly, surely then it can't be so mighty a task for him to read from the Sepher a few chapters occasionally; common report says him a man of understanding & docility of disposition; he was bred to strict rules of Judaism, and doubt not has imbibed the sentiment of his much respected and worthy Father of honoured Memory, to keep up & support our holy religion & worship in every respect so much as possible— I therefore have no doubt, that on his being made acquainted with the preceeding passages, which shew that reading the Parasa<sup>n</sup> from the Sepher [Torah] is essential & strictly commanded by our Laws, that he will not hesitate to perform that part of the service, especially when it can be done so easily by means of a Prompter; or if that should not be agreeable, to read the words altho without the *Ta'amim* \* (chanting) would still be preferable to your present mode.

I shall now endeavor to solve your question 'Why it is more wrong to take out a Sepher without reading from it, at Sabbaths & Holidays than on Kipur Night & Hosannah Rabba?' . . . .

[Further on in the letter he writes that:]

Ceremonial customs have been established in different ways in different Congregations according to the fancy & opinion of the head Men that were amongst them, at the time of framing their several Constitutions; These customs were accordingly adopted and in process of time were considered nearly as essential & remain in practice to this day— That this is the case may readily be proved by those who have been no farther than England & Holland, provided they made it a point to take notice— The *Minhag* \* (custom) in the Portuguese Synagogue at Amsterdam differs from that at London in many respects— The several Ashkenazim (dutch) Synagogues in London differ even from each other, & so do those at Amsterdam, without mentioning the several Large &

numerous Congregations in other parts of Europe, Asia & Africa—As to our North American Congregations, not much can be said in that respect, as in reality they have no regular system; chiefly owing (in my opinion) to the smallness of their numbers, & the frequent mutability of the members from one place to another—And as from their first establishment they had no fixed & permanent rules to go by, so they have continually remained in a state of fluctuation, And every new comer introduced something new, either from his own conceit and fancy, or (what is more probable) from the Custom of the Congregation where he was bred, or the one he last came from— This I can averr from my own observations to have been the case frequently at New York ever since I knew it, as well by transient persons as the several Hazanim they have had there from time to time, the present one not excepted, who during his being in office has collected some materials from one & another And patched up a system of ceremonies of his own, which will be followed during the time he remains in office, but no sooner another one succeeds, some new customs & formalities will be introduced, especially if he happens to be an European, he will alledge (as most of the Narrow Minded part of them are apt to do) what did your late *Hazan* \* know about those matters or indeed how should he? seeing he never was out of America &c &c I say such arrogant Language is common among the unpolished Europeans, more especially among OUR PEOPLE, who suppose it next to impossible any knowledge can be obtained out of Europe: whereupon the Rulers who mostly are Men of yesterday, strangers to the Portugaise *Minhag* \* (custom) altho bred to it, because having been of little Consequence in their own Country of course not in the way to know or in fact to trouble themselves about matters of that sort: or should it even happen that some of the Rulers & members are Portugaise, the same observation may hold good with them as the others: and both descriptions (being Europeans) will most probable unanimously subscribe to the opinions of the New Hazan & adopt them, as doubtless he must know better than the late one—

Now this circumstance does not, nor can not find place in the large & old established Congregations abroad, as they have their Customs & ceremonies even the most minute, reduced to a regular system, from which they do not deviate on any account; and if a *Hazan* \* either a travelling or established one should perform publick service, he must conform to the rules & customs of the Congregation, not they to the new fangled rules & whims of the Hazan— . . . .

[This is followed by another lengthy theological discussion. On the question of omitting the blowing of the Shofar he writes:]

I duly observe what you are pleased to say, respecting the blowing of Shophar your reasons for not performing that solemn & strictly enjoined service, are beyond doubt of great weight; for there is no *Din* \* (ruling) to be found that insists on blowing a Shophar where there is none. . . . By your Letter it appears that you have instructed M<sup>r</sup>. David Lopez Jun<sup>r</sup>. to procure you one at Hamburg, which fully complies with the aforesaid injunction—In the interim if it should not arrive in time against the next Season, I doubt not you might procure the Loan of one from New York nay the Cracked one you have might be made to answer in case of need, say for the want of a good one. There are many rules laid down how to manage in case a Shophar is cracked or otherwise defective to make it fit for use. . . .

Your observations on the Blower you mention to have been at your place 3 years July answers the report of & entirely justifies your being ashamed for the *Goyim* \* (non-Jews), but with this difference in your favour, that you were not ashamed of the performance but of the performer; and if no other could be found than such a profligate as you describe him, I should not hesitate to suspend that part of the service for once, untill a person of good character would undertake to practice & perform; rather than have a Stigma cast on us & be derided not alone by *Goyim* \* (non-Jews) but also by pious & well thinking *Yehudim* \* (Jews). . . .

I can't avoid to say a word in justification of M<sup>r</sup>. Uriah Hendricks not attending publick worship when last at your place. . . . On the score of a religious principle in the circumstance you conduct the service, I must coincide with him, and should have acted in a similar manner had I been in the same predicament— . . .

Making offerings at the *Sepher* or *Hechal* \* (Ark) altho no Command is nevertheless practiced all over the world, and is mentioned in several Books of high estimation, as an ancient Custom & practice; the mode however varies in different Congregations; yet notwithstanding if you find it inconvenient & can support the service without it, as appears by your Subscription List, you are at full liberty, without being guilty of any infringement. to dispense with it, more especially in the Manner those offerings are conducted in these parts & in the West-Indies; and on this subject I sincerely join in your ejaculation, that "it is to be regretted it

could not be generally adopted " But as I remarked Several times before, The old established Congregations are very tenacious of thier Customs- I doubt not that you will agree with me that it is full time to close for the present the Subject of Congregational affairs- and if what I have herein advanced, should prove satisfactory it will afford me no small pleasure; I have however to apologize for my drawing out this Letter to such unreasonable Length, which is occasioned partly (as you will please to observe) by rendering into English most of the Authorities cited; and partly by such illustrations as I conceived requisite to throw some Light on those Customs & Ceremonies as are not generally known; and above all my desire to return Measure for Measure- And must request that you will be pleased to excuse any inaccuracies or tautology that may have escaped me, whereof your friendship & politeness Leaves me no room to doubt of being readily complied with-

The circumstantial detail of the young man Mr. N. Henriques you have been so polite to favor me with, demands my acknowledgements, it corroborates with what he has related of himself, as I am informed from another quarter- As no more room is left on the Paper must of necessity conclude with adding that M<sup>rs</sup> Josephson & our Niece return their best thanks for your friendly Salutation, & offer theirs to your goodself, M<sup>rs</sup> Seixas, your good Mother & rest of the Family and believe me with Sentiments of great regard- D<sup>r</sup>. Sir y<sup>r</sup> esteemed friend & hum<sup>t</sup>. Ser<sup>vt</sup>.

MANUEL JOSEPHSON.

[No. 16]

[Newport, June 9, 1854. Letter from N. H. Gould to Rev. J. J. Lyons concerning the interment of Catherine Hays<sup>1</sup> at Newport, alongside of her sister on the date of writing.

Newport, July 17, 1856. Letter from same to same on the propriety of the establishment of a school in the Chamber of the addition to the Synagogue, to be kept by a Mr. David

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<sup>1</sup> [Catherine Hays was a cousin of the famous philanthropist Judah Touro and it is stated that her father, Moses M. Hays opposed their marriage because of this close relationship. Both she and Touro remained unmarried.]

Bendau. The inquiry was made at the request of the Committee of City Council of Newport who had care of synagogue.

Letter from same to same, dated Newport, Sept. 3, 1872, enclosing a photograph of the interior of the Synagogue. There is a reference to a diary which reads as follows:

"I have been looking over my Dear Deceased Uncles diary and have found quite a number of Memos of the Israelites who left here from /17 to /23. And when I shall have copied the inscriptions (English) upon the stones in the Cemetery will forward you quite a budget of one and another shred of history and tradition."]

[No. 12]

Printed article on the Newport Burying Ground by Henry Tuckerman, from *Harper's Monthly Magazine*, New York, August 1869, No. 231.

[No. 232]

Plot of the Beth Haim at Newport, list of graves, etc. (Sept. 1872), copied by Nathan H. Gould of Newport. The items are also contained in Rev. A. P. Mendes' article entitled, "The Jewish Cemetery at Newport," in the *Rhode Island Historical Magazine*, Vol. 6, No. 2, October 1885.

[Passages found in that article but not in this manuscript of the Lyons Collection, are enclosed in brackets. Matter not found in that article is indicated by small capitals.]

TWO (3) GRAVES OF CHILDREN NOT OVER 3 YEARS OF AGE BURIED SINCE 1842, UNMARKED EXCEPT BY PLAIN STONES, 5 FT-6 IN FROM THE NORTH WALL AND CLOSE TO THE EAST.

[Sacred to the memory of]

Edwin

Son of

Leo and Matilda Rosenstein  
of New York

Born March 27th 1866

Died July 23d 1866

Next close to the East wall 28 ft South of the last-mentioned  
—no mark—square block brown stone.

Do Table Mr. Moses Levy Died 28th Sivan 5522 June 18th, 1792.

Aged 88 [years].

[Monument

of the burial place of the venerated and honored Moses,  
son, of Isaac, the Levite, liberated for Paradise on the 28th  
day of Sivan 552, minor notation.

And the years of his life were 88 years.

May his soul be bound in the bands of life.<sup>1</sup>]

Do Miss Bilah Levy died 8th Sebat 5541 February the 3d 1781.

Aged 39 years.

[Monument

of the burial place of the modest virgin,  
Bilah, daughter of Benjamin the Levite,  
liberated for Paradise on the 5th Shebat, 541 minor notation.  
And the years of her life were 26 years.

May her soul be bound in the bands of life.<sup>1</sup>]

Mrs. Judith Levy died the 22 Tisri 5549 October 23d 1788.

Aged 86 [years.]

[Monument

of the burial place of the venerable  
virtuous woman Judith, wife of  
Benjamin the Levite, liberated for Paradise  
on the 22d of Tishri 549 (minor notation).

And the years of the life of her days were 86 years.

May her soul be bound in the bands of life.<sup>1</sup>]

Mr. Benjamin Levy

died 19th Tebet 5548

December 30th 1787.

[Aged 95]

[Monument

of the burial place of the honored old man  
Mr. Benjamin, son of Isaac, the Levite,  
liberated for Paradise on the 19th day of  
Tebeth 548 (minor notation).

And the days of the years of his life were  
95. The memory of the just is blessed.

May his soul be bound in the bands of life.<sup>1</sup>]

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<sup>1</sup> [Translation of the Hebrew inscription.]



On a line with the Fence and back of the Hays inclosure, Head and foot Stones.

Isaac M. Seixas  
Died [the] 7th Adar 5546  
February 5th 1786.  
Aged 6 years, 6 Mos.  
[Monument  
of the burial place of the child Isaac  
Mendes Seixas, who was liberated for Paradise  
on the 6th day of Adar 546 (minor notation).  
He was a child of 6 years and 6 months.  
May his soul be bound in the bands of life.<sup>1</sup>]

[In Memory of]  
Sarah Ann  
daughter of  
Jacob and Miriam Levy,  
who died September 21st 1809  
Aged 9 mos.  
[and] 25 days.

Table 11 Ft from the above South West

[In Memory of]  
Isaac Jacob Polok  
of Surinam, who departed this  
life the [2]3rd day of Hesvan,  
[A. M.] 5543, which corresponds  
to the 28th day of October, 1782.  
[Monument  
of the burial place of Isaac, son of Jacob,  
the son of Aaron, liberated on the 23d day  
of the month Heshvan in the year 5543.  
May his soul be bound in the bands of life.<sup>1</sup>]

---

<sup>1</sup> [Translation of the Hebrew inscription.]

Which finishes the row back of the Hays inclosure that have Stones, but tradition informs us that there are a series of interments throughout the distance to the front fence on Touro Street.

Hays inclosure. North end.

[Sacred  
to the memory of]

Slowey,  
the daughter of Moses M. and Rachel Hays,  
who departed this life in Richmond, Va.,  
on the 9th day of Heshvan 5597,  
being the 19th day of October, 1836.  
“God will redeem my soul from the power of the  
grave for he will receive me.”

[Sepulchre  
in memory of the virgin Slowey, daughter of Moses,  
(of blessed memory)  
who was liberated on the 9th day of the month Heshvan  
5597.

May her soul be bound in the bands of life.<sup>1</sup>]

Under the same monument were deposited the remains of her Sister Caty, about one week after Judah Touro was interred in his Family lot—say in June 1854, but there is no inscription to her memory.<sup>2</sup>

[Opposite side of monument bears following inscription in English only.

Catherine Hays  
Born in Boston  
October 3, 1776  
Died at Richmond, Va.,  
January 2, 1854  
Aged 77 years,  
2 months and 30 days.]

---

<sup>1</sup> [Translation of the Hebrew inscription.]

<sup>2</sup> [Gould is mistaken in this regard as the item below shows.]

Next South.

On the first day of the Hebrew month  
    *Iyar* [5582]  
being the first day of May, 1832  
    Departed this life  
        Judah Hays,  
    the son of  
    Moses M. and Rachel Hays  
    formerly of Boston, Massachusetts.  
    This monument  
Sacred to the memory of that dear brother,  
    Is erected by  
    His deeply afflicted sisters.  
        [In God is our trust,<sup>1</sup>]  
        In God we trust.  
        [Here is interred  
The young man, Judah, son of Moses of blessed memory,  
liberated on Tuesday the 1st of the month *Iyar*  
582  
    minor notation.  
May his soul be bound in the bands of life.  
    Amen.<sup>1</sup>]

    The remains of  
        of  
    Mrs. Rachel Hays,  
    Relict of Moses M. Hays, Esq.,  
    Were conveyed from Boston,  
IN THE STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS and interred here.  
    She died on Saturday, the first day of *Tishri* \*  
        A. M. 5571,  
answering [corresponding] to the 29th day of September 1810  
        of the Christian era,  
        aged 72 years.  
    [Monument of the burial place of  
    the venerable Mrs. Rachel, widow of the exalted  
    Mr. Moses Michael, the son of Judah.  
    She was liberated in good repute but a few  
    years after the death of her husband  
        on the 1st day of the New Year  
        571 minor notation.  
And all the days of her life were seventy-two years.  
    May her soul be bound in the bands of life.<sup>1</sup>]

---

<sup>1</sup> [Translation of the Hebrew inscription.]

Here  
 repose the ashes of Moses Michael Hays, Esquire,  
 who died in Boston,  
 [in the state of] Massachusetts,  
 on the 11th day of *Iyar* \*

A. M. 5565  
 the 9th day of May, 1805, of the Christian era,  
 Aged LXVI years.

IN COMMEMORATION OF HIS VIRTUES HIS SON WITH FILIAL REVERENCE  
 ERECTED THIS MONUMENT.

[The exalted Moses Michael, son of Judah,  
 liberated for Paradise on Friday, the 11th day of  
*Iyar*, 565, (minor notation). And the days of his  
 life were sixty-six years. The memory of the just  
 is blessed. May his soul be bound in the bands of life.<sup>1</sup>]

Next

In Memory of  
 Rebekah,  
 THE daughter of Moses M. Hays, of Boston,  
 In the State of Massachusetts  
 who  
 departed this life  
 ON Thursday the 22nd [23d] July, 1802,  
 Aged 33 years 5 months.  
 [The virgin Rebecca, daughter of Moses,  
 liberated for Paradise on Thursday, 23d  
*Tamuz*, year 562, minor notation. The days of her life  
 were 33 years and 5 months.  
 May her soul be bound in the bands of life.<sup>1</sup>]

---

<sup>1</sup> [Translation of the Hebrew inscription.]

Next to Hays inclosure.

[In Memory  
of]

Abraham Minis, Esquire,  
of Savannah, [in the state of] Georgia,  
who

departed this life at Newport  
on 29th August, 1801,  
Aged 23 years, 6 months  
and [1]4 days.

A dutiful son,  
an affectionate relative,  
a Sincere and valuable friend,  
of manners most pleasing,  
of morals the most correct,  
and of irreproachable integrity.

This estimable young gentleman fell a  
victim in the bloom of life to the accidental  
fracture of a leg,

and died universally beloved, esteemed and lamented.

His [The] bereaved parent, Judith Minis, hath caused  
this stone to be placed as a tribute to his memory  
and his virtues and as a memorial of her  
irrepayable [irreparable] loss, 30th [3d] July, 1803.

[Monument

of the burial place of the goodly young man  
Abraham, son of Uri Minis, liberated for Paradise  
on the holy Sabbath 20th Elul, in the year 541 (min. not.)  
And the days of his life were three and twenty years,  
six months and 14 days.

May his soul be bound in the bands of life.<sup>1</sup>]

---

<sup>1</sup> [Translation of the Hebrew inscription.]

## Headstone

In Memory of  
 Mr. Myer Benjamin,  
 who departed this life ye 20th November  
 1776 [1766]  
 aged 43 years.  
 [Monument  
 of the burial place of Mr. Myer  
 the son of Benjamin, liberated  
 on the first day of the month Kislef, and buried  
 on the second in the year 5527,  
 43 years.  
 May his soul be bound in the bands of life.<sup>1</sup>]

Table 27 Ft from the above. DO DEMARENTUNADO MOSEH ALVARES  
 QUE FO EM 15 DE HESVAN 5527 QUE CORESPONDEN 19 DE AUTUBRO 1766  
 DE IDADE DE 37 ANNOS S. A. G. D. G.

[Sepulchre of  
 the fortunate Moses Alvarez  
 Who died on the 15th of Hesvan 5527  
 Which corresponds to the 19th October, 1766,  
 Aged 37 years.  
 May his soul enjoy divine glory.<sup>2</sup>]

[Here lieth the body of Moses Alvarez who departed this life  
 on the 19th of October 1766 in the 57th year of his age.]

[The monument  
 of the burial place of Moses Alvarez  
 Removed to Paradise the 15th of the month  
 Heshvan of the year 5527.  
 May his soul be bound up in the bands of life.<sup>1</sup>]

11 Ft from front Fence a Brown stone Table from which a  
 Lead tablet was taken during the time this Town was occupied  
 by the English during the War of the Revolution, and no in-  
 scription remains. Tradition says it was placed to the memory  
 of one of the males of the Polock Family.

---

<sup>1</sup> [Translation of the Hebrew inscription.]

<sup>2</sup> [Translation of the Portuguese inscription given by Rev. A. P. Mendes.]

Headstone

next north Rebecca the wife of Zephaniah [Zechariah] Polock  
Died March 6th [2nd], 1764.  
Aged 65 years 6 Mos., and 18 days.

[Monument

of the burial place of the honored woman  
Rebecca, daughter of Judah,  
Who departed to her eternal home on the eve of the  
Holy Sabbath, 28th of 1st Adar in the year  
524 (minor notation). The years of her life  
Were 65 years, 6 months and 18 days.

May her soul be bound in the bands of life.<sup>1</sup>]

Mr. Isaac Polock [Polak] who  
departed this life May 23d 1764, aged  
63 years 9 months and 6 days.

[The monument

of the burial place of the aged and honored Mr. Isaac, son  
of Rabbi Meyer Polak, of blessed memory, who departed  
to his eternal home on Wednesday, 21st Iyar, of the year  
524, (minor notation).

The years of his life were 63 years, 9 months, 6 days.<sup>1</sup>]

[Surmounted by inscription: "Now the man Moses was exceeding meek."<sup>1</sup>]

Sacred to the memory of Mr. Moses Lopez Merchant  
who suddenly quitted this transitory life, on ye [the]  
6th April 1767 in the [61st] year of his age.

He was a gentleman in whom was [were] united every moral and  
social virtue, which prepared his mortal [immortal] part for the  
fruition of the glorious state, in which [where] the pious and  
virtuous receive the reward of their good actions.

[Monument

of the burial place of the honored old man  
Mr. Moses Lopez, who was liberated on the 7th  
and buried on the 8th day of the month Nissan in the  
year 5527 of the Creation.

The days of his life were 61 years.

May his soul be bound in the bands of life with the souls of  
the righteous.<sup>1</sup>]

---

<sup>1</sup> [Translation of the Hebrew inscription.]

SR ABRAHAM RODRIQUEZ RIVERA FO EN 18 DE TAMUZ AO 5525 QUE CORE-  
SPONDE EN 7 DE JULIO AO 1765. S. A. D. G.

[Sepulchre

of the venerated and honorable old man,  
Abraham Rodriguez Rivera, deceased on the  
18th of Tamuz 5525, which corresponds to the 7th July,  
of the Year 1765. May his soul enjoy divine glory.<sup>1</sup>]

["And Abraham expired and died in a good old age."

The monument of the burial place of the aged and honored  
Mr. Abraham

Rodrigues Rivera, who was liberated on the 18th day of the month  
Tamuz, and buried on the same day, in the year 5585 of the  
creation.

May his soul be bound up in the bands of life.

Reposing here in peace beneath this sod of humble earth,  
Lies one, who wise of heart and just, possessed exalted worth.  
Till old and full of years he lived, esteemed, beloved by all,  
Because his way was perfect and he heeded duty's call.

Beneficent as Abraham he constantly relieved

The woes of poor and needy, afflicted and bereaved;

He shines now with effulgent light a denizen above,

In realms reserved for all who here, "revere" a God of love.<sup>2</sup>]

If to profess and practice [patronize] the principles of Judaism  
or to observe the strictest integrity in extensive commerce

And to exhibit unbounded benevolence

for all mankind, can secure

to the spontaneous and invariable practicer

of these virtues eternal bliss

Jacob Rods Riveara [Rivera]

whose mortal frame is deposited beneath this marble  
must, consonant to the ardent hope of all who knew him,  
be in full possession of that superlative happiness.

He lived beloved and died lamented

the 23d Sabat A. M.

5549, corresponding with YE 18th February 1789,

Aged 72.

["The memory of the just is blessed."

"And the days of Jacob were two and seventy years."

Monument

of the burial place of the honored old man

Mr. Jacob Rodrigues Rivera, liberated

on the 23d day of the month Shebat, 5549.

May his soul be bound in the bands of life.<sup>3</sup>]

<sup>1</sup> [Translation of the Spanish inscription given by Rev. A. P. Mendes.]

<sup>2</sup> [Translation of the Hebrew inscription given by Rev. A. P.



In Memory of  
Mrs.  
Martha Moravia,  
who departed this  
life 26 Tamuz 5547  
12 July 1787.

18 Ft North

Moses Lopez,  
A native of Portugal, died  
in the City of New York [Newport] on the  
6th of the Hebrew month Abib  
5590, [April 1st 1830,]

Aged 86  
During his residence in this town,  
which was nearly 60 years, he  
enjoyed the friendship and esteem  
of all who knew him.

[Monument] <sup>1</sup>  
Jacob Lopez,  
Died 18 March, 1822,  
or the 25th of the Hebrew month  
Adar 5582,  
Aged 70 YEARS.  
[May his soul be bound in the bands of life.<sup>1</sup>]

---

<sup>1</sup> [Translation of the Hebrew inscription.]

Post mortem quidquid remansit

Abigail Lopez

est hic

sed

proh dolore est nihil

fuit

dum fuit

Virtute insignis charitate ardens

fidelix

uxo et comes

tenem una parens

obuit

e 21 yearis

Ano mundi

5522

hoc est

die 14 Mensis Mayi

1762

Eate sua

36

[Whatever remains after death

of Abigail Lopez, is here.

She was distinguished for virtue and lively charity

A faithful wife and companion,

The tenderest of parents,

died 21st Iyar,

In the year of the world 5522,

which is

the 14th day of May, 1762, of the Vulgar era.

Her age 36.<sup>1</sup>]

This is as it now ap-  
pears after the stone  
has scaled off by the  
action of frost Nov  
1872 N. H. G.

[This is the monument of the burial place of the worthy woman, Mrs. Abigail, wife of Mr. Aaron Lopes, who departed to her eternal home on the eve of the holy Sabbath on the 21st day of the month Iyar—minor notation—The days of the years of her life were 36 years. May her soul be bound in the bands of life with the souls of the righteous men and women in Paradise.<sup>2</sup>]

[Surmounted by 5 Hebrew letters, initials of the words, "May her soul be bound in the bands of life."]

<sup>1</sup> [Translation of the Latin inscription. The Latin does not appear in Dr. Mendes' article.]

<sup>2</sup> [Translation of the Hebrew inscription.]

AQUI YAGE TAIMUZ HONUAD Y VIRTUOSA SENORA RAQUEL RODRIGUEZ DE REVERA QUE FELLECIO EN SABATH 8 DE VARDAR 5521 QUE CORRESPONDE 14 DE MAICO 1761/ SU BENDITA ALMA GAZE DE LA DIVINA GLORIA AMEN. ETATIS SUA 77.

[Here lieth the very honored and virtuous Mrs. Rachel Rodriguez Rivera, who died on Sabbath, 3d Veadar, 5521, which corresponds to the 14th of March 1761.

May her blessed soul enjoy divine glory. Amen

Her age was 77 <sup>1</sup>]

Here lyeth the body of ye virtuous Widow Mrs. Rachel Rodriguez Riverea [Rivera] who departed this life on Sunday [Saturday] the 8th of Veadar 5521. which corresponds to ye 14th of March 1761. May her blessed soul enjoy eternal happiness. Amen

Aetates sui 77.

In Memory of Jacob, ye son of  
Moses and Rachel [Rebecca] Lopez,

Died Tisri [ye] 3d 5524

Aged 9 years 3 Mo.

[and] 26 days.

Head } [Footstone is inscribed J. L. 5524.]

Stones } In Memory of Isaac, ye son of  
Moses and Rachel [Rebecca] Lopez  
died the 4th Tisri, 5523,  
aged 6 Mos [and] 9 days.

[The footstone is inscribed I. L. 5523.]

*Touro inclosure continued.*

In Memory of the

Rev. Isaac Touro,

The able and faithful minister of the  
Congregation Yeshuat [Yeshuath] Israel in Newport

R. I., who departed this life on the 14th  
of Tebet A. M. 5544, and December 8th

MDCCCLXXXIII, at Kingston Jamaica

AE 46 years.

---

<sup>1</sup> [Translation of the Spanish inscription given by Rev. A. P. Mendes.]

The memory of the just is blessed.

The [This] tribute of  
filial piety is consecrated  
to the memory  
of his honored parents

by their son  
Abraham Touro

MDCCCXIV

[Monument

In memory of the learned, honored  
and exalted Isaac, son of Abraham Touro  
of blessed memory.

Reader and faithful pastor of the Congregation  
"Yeshuath Israel"—who was released for Paradise  
14th Tebet 544, minor notation.

All the days of the years of his life

Were six and forty years.

May his soul be bound in the bands of life.<sup>1</sup>

MS

Beneath are deposited

The remains of

Mrs. Reyna,

The worthy relict of

the Rev. Isaac Touro,

East front Who died in [at] Boston on the

14th of Tisri A. M. 5548

and the 28th September, 1787,

Æ 44 years.

The memory of the just is blessed.

---

<sup>1</sup> [Translation of the Hebrew inscription.]

Erected  
To the memory of  
Abraham Touro [of Boston]  
[son of Isaac and Reyna Touro]  
who was suddenly taken from this transitory  
state in the 48[th] year of a happy and useful [useful  
and happy] life  
deeply lamented by his afflicted relatives  
and innumerable friends,  
distinguished and esteemed for [in] those virtues  
and good qualities which exalt the  
character of a man.

He was interred in this place by his own desire  
on the 20th October [of September,]

1822.

[“ Fear not Abram, I am thy shield, thine exceeding great reward.”

Monument of the Burial Place

of the worthy and esteemed Abraham, son of  
the Sweet Singer of Israel, Isaac Touro, of blessed memory,  
Liberated, in good repute, for his eternal home,  
in the world reserved for the righteous, in the city of Boston,  
in the forty-eighth year of his life, on the sixth day  
in the month of Cheshvan of the year.

“ A good name is better than fragrant oil, and the day of death is  
better than the day of one's birth.<sup>1</sup>

May his soul be bound in the bands of life.<sup>2</sup>]

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<sup>1</sup> “ This text supplies a chronogram, certain letters being marked  
to make the number 582.” [Note by Rev. A. P. Mendes.]

<sup>2</sup> [Translation of the Hebrew inscription.]

*Touro Inclosure continued.*

## Tables

In Memory of  
 Mrs Phila, Relict of  
 Mr. Marcus Ellecan [Elkan]  
 late of Richmond, Virginia,  
 who in the 60th year of her age  
 departed this life in [at] Boston  
 on the 1st May, 1820,  
 corresponding with the Hebrew  
 month Iyar 5580.  
 [Monument of the burial place  
 of the woman worthy and modest,  
 the widow  
 Fegla, widow of Mordecai, son of Elchanan  
 liberated for Paradise, in the city of Boston,  
 Monday, 17th of the month Iyar,  
 60 years of her life  
 In the year 5580,  
 May her soul be bound in the bands of life.<sup>1</sup>]

The West Side of the Cemetery or that portion of it West of the Avenue, has been buried over, but the only Stone visible is that of Josephs, the unfortunate, which is not far from 20 ft from the Gate of entrance, and not far from 12 ft from the Fence on the Kay Street side, and as far as is known there is but one space unoccupied for a Grave and that was reserved for and by the request of Mordecai Myer Esq.

*Touro Inclosure.*

[To the memory of]

Judah Touro

Born Newport, R. I., June 16th 1775,

Died New Orleans, La., Jan'y. 18 1854.

Interred here June 6th.

The last of his name

He inscribed it in the Book of

Philanthropy

To be remembered forever.

[To the memory

of Judah, son of Isaac Touro,

who departed for the world of eternity

on Thursday the 19th of Tebeth 614, minor notation,

in the 79th year of the days of his life,

and was interred on Tuesday, 6th Sevan 614,

minor notation.

May his soul be bound in the bands of life.<sup>1</sup>]

East front

Sacred  
to the memory of  
Rebecca Lopez  
THE wife of  
Joshua Lopez  
and daughter of the  
Rev. Isaac Touro, LATE OF THIS TOWN.  
She departed this life  
much esteemed and respected  
in the City of New York  
on the 19th Tebet, [A. M.] 5594,  
it being the 19th December, 1833,  
of the Christian era.  
Aged 54 years.

[Monument of the Burial Place  
of the esteemed and modest woman  
Rebecca, wife of Joshua Lopez and daughter  
of Isaac Touro, Minister of this City,  
liberated 19th Tebet, 594, minor notation,  
And all the days of the years—fifty-forty.<sup>1</sup>]

North Sides

Erected by Judah Touro, Esq.,  
of the City of New Orleans,  
To the memory of a beloved sister.

Directly west of Hays inclosure and on a line with Moses and  
Jacob Lopez

Table }  
much }  
worn }

In memory of Mrs. Abigail LOPEZ  
[the worthy] relict of Mr.  
Abraham Lopez, deceas'd,  
who departed this life in the  
82nd [83d] year of her age, on the 6th of  
Heshvan, A. M. 5555 [5553],  
corresponding to the 10th October [October 23,] 1792.  
The grateful remembrance of her  
unaffected piety and benevolence  
of heart, ever replete with affecting sensibility [a feeling  
of responsibility] for the indigent and  
destitute [distressed] has erected [is] a lasting monument  
to [perpetuate] her virtuous character  
in the minds [hearts] of all her numerous  
relatives [relations] and friends.

---

<sup>1</sup> [Translation of the Hebrew inscription.]

## [Monument

of the burial place of the virtuous, aged woman,  
 Abigail, wife of Mr. Abraham Lopez, liberated for Paradise  
 on the 6th day of Marcheshvan 553, minor notation.  
 The days of the years of her life 82 years.  
 May her soul be bound in the bands of life.<sup>1</sup>

Sacred is this Marble here erected in Memory of Mrs. Rachel Lopez, the beloved consort of David Lopez, [Junr.], and third daughter of the Late worthy Mr. Aaron Lopez, and Abigail, his Wife, who exchanged the imperfect and evanescent enjoyments of this State [Vale] of Tears for a Life of Certain and Immortal bliss on the 4th [of] Elul A. M. 5549, corresponding to the 26th [of] August 1789 **AE 31.**

Indued [Endued] with all the excellencies of the amiable woman, her span of life, tho' short, was employed in the exercise of every gentle virtue. Exemplary for conjugal affection, she lived the [an] ornament of [to] her sex. In [to] friendship tender, constant and sincere, the milk of human kindness filled her peaceful breast, and resignation marked her faith in God: thus in life was she blessed [beloved] and admired, in death lamented and revered.

["The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away, blessed be the name of the Lord." May her soul be bound in the bands of life.

## Monument

of the burial place of the virtuous woman Rachel, wife of Mr. David Lopez, liberated for Paradise on the 4th day of Elul 5549, and the days of the years of her life were thirty-one years. The memory of the just is blessed.<sup>1</sup>

[Surmounted by the Hebrew inscription: "A good name is better than precious ointment and the day of death is better than the day of one's birth." "Hear Lord the voice of Aaron."]

---

<sup>1</sup> [Translation of the Hebrew inscription.]



In Memory of Mr. Aaron Lopez<sup>1</sup>  
who was drawn from this transitory existence  
to eternal rest, the 14th Sivan A. M. 5542,  
corresponding to May 23th, 1782.

Aetatis 51.

He was a Merchant of eminence,  
of Polite and amiable manners.

Hospitality, Liberality and Benevolence  
were his true characteristics.

An ornament and valuable Pillar to  
the Jewish Society, of which he was a  
member. His knowledge in commerce  
was unbounded, and his integrity irreproachable;  
thus he lived, and died, much regretted,  
esteemed [and loved] by all.

["The memory of the just is blessed."]

The Monument

of the burial place of the honored Mr. Aaron Lopez  
who was liberated for Paradise on the 14th of the  
month Sivan

in the year 5542.

May his soul be bound in the bands of life.<sup>2</sup>]

Mr. Isaac Mendes Seixas  
of New York

Died 5th Heshvan 5541; November 3d, 1780,

Aged 72 years.

[Monument

of the burial place of the honored old man,  
Mr. Isaac Mendes Seixas, liberated for Paradise  
on the 5th day of Marcheshvan 5411 (minor notation).  
and the days of the years of his life were 72 years.

The memory of the just is a blessing.

May his soul be bound in the bands of life.<sup>2</sup>]

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<sup>1</sup> [This inscription is stated to have been composed by Rev. Ezra Stiles, the famous president of Yale College, in memory of Aaron Lopez who was his intimate friend. See Prof. Morris Jastrow, Jr., *Publications*, No. 10, p. 16, and George A. Kohut, "Ezra Stiles and the Jews: Selected Passages from His Literary Diary concerning Jews and Judaism," . . . New York, 1902, p. 140.]

<sup>2</sup> [Translation of the Hebrew inscription.]

[Monument of <sup>1</sup>]

Moses Seixas,  
died 4th Chisleu 5570,  
being Nov. 29th, 1809,  
Aged 66.

He was Grand Master of the  
Grand Lodge of [the] Masonic  
Order of this State, and Cashier of  
the Bank of Rhode Island from its  
commencement to his death.

[No. 10]

Clipping from an old Newport newspaper, in regard to death of Mrs. Rivera. Name of paper and date missing.

The death of Mrs. Rivera, of New York, aged *one hundred*, leads me to record an anecdote honorable to the memory of her worthy husband. Jacob Rodrique[s] Rivera of the Jewish Religion, was an eminent merchant at Newport, Rhode-Island, and long and very much respected for his integrity and benevolence. In the course of events he failed in business, and took the benefit of the insolvent, or bankrupt act—and obtained the customary certificate from his creditors. He again entered into business, and in the course of years, became once more a man of property—but could not remain easy until he *paid all his former creditors the utmost farthing*.— From his counting-house, and from that of his no less eminent son-in-law, Aaron Lopez, of Newport, have sprung several eminent merchants. From Mr. Rivera's came a very distinguished, opulent and philanthropic merchant of New-Bedford. It is to the honor of our country that a zealous and conscientious Jew, and an equally conscientious and pious Christian should retain for each other a boundless confidence and mutual respect—Mrs. Rivera was a distinguished gentlewoman in her manners, and in this she corresponded with her venerable husband; as to their son-in-law, Aaron Lopez, all who remember him *must*, we believe, know that he, beside a merchant of the first rank,

<sup>1</sup> [Translation of the Hebrew inscription.]

for elegant manners, and dignified accomplishments, it would be difficult to name his superior.

Reflecting on the excellent character and benevolent conduct of these worthy gentlemen of the Hebrew nation, may we not be allowed to use the words of that Divine Jew, who said to his followers, "*Go, and do so likewise.*"

A CHRISTIAN

[No. 280A]

Copied from a printed scrap from some newspaper without date or name of author, lent me by Mr. Moses Gomez at B'rith of Son of Naphtali J. Phillips, Febry 9th, 1872. He said it was cut from a Newport Newspaper.

There were but four Jewish families left in Newport in my day; the Reveries, Isaacs, Lopez and Seixas. Moses Seixas built the old Jew house afterwards Charles Whitfields boarding house. Seixas was Cashier of the Bank of Rhode Island until he died. I have often heard my Quaker grandmother eulogize the integrity of old Joseph Jacobs, an "Israelite in whom there was no guile." He was a Silversmith, lived in the East end of her house, and paid part of the rent in Silver Spoons marked J. B. J.—Joseph and Beulah Jacobs. Some of them are now in my possession. When he retired from business, he was appointed by the Jews to kill animals according to their ritual Code and no man was more faithful to the ceremonial law. He probably had never read St. Paul's asseveration, that "Circumcision or uncircumcision availeth nothing, but a new creature." Aaron Lopez before the revolution was the largest Shipowner and merchant in Newport. He owned at one time 113 Sail of Vessels. It is only a few years since I was in his counting-room on Finch & Engs wharf where every pigeonhole was labelled with the name of a Vessel. It was a low chamber, papered with a paper of a small plain figure. Lopez left Newport during the war, and was drowned in a quicksand pond

where he drove to water his horse, on his return to Newport when peace was proclaimed.

[No. 280E]

Memorandum of information obtained by Rev. J. J. Lyons,  
September 15, 1872.

Mr. Moses Gomez remembers to have heard from his aunt Mrs. Julia Lopez that Jacob Lopez (familiarily called Jack Lopez) a midshipman returned to Newport from a cruise (on board a war vessel called *General Green* in which one of the Perrys was also a midshipman). As he was ill with smallpox he was brought to the Lazaretto on some island across the bay and his condition and finally his death was announced to his anxious family by a prearranged system of Signal with a flag from said island.

[No. 280F]

Notes by Rev. J. J. Lyons regarding Jews of Newport.

[These are miscellaneous notes gathered by Mr. Lyons while visiting Newport in 1872. Only such matter appears here as is not contained in his Notebooks on Newport.]

Touro Street: 7 blocks on Touro Street to be repaved from fund in Touro's will.

Aug. 1872 Saw Trinity Church whose Steeple was built from the proceeds of a lottery.

Aug. 1872 Saw Masonic Hall where (I believe) Moses Seixas acted as grandmaster of the lodge.

Localities of the Residences of the Hebrews in olden times. Sites of the residences of the Hebrews in former times, some of the houses still standing:

Bridge Street—Mrs. Rivera.

“ “ Several of the families of Hart.

“ “ Several of the families of Pollock.

Corner of Washington & Chestnut Streets—Residence of Nathaniel Hart.

Corner Elm & Washington Streets—Site of residence of Jacob Rodrigues Rivera. House modernized.

Corner 3d & Chestnut St—House of Myer Pollock Senr. Wooden building 2 Stories with Barn roof. Old House still standing Aug. 25th, 1872.

Corner Cherry & 3d St—Jacob Pollock.

Corner Washington & Willer St—Jacob Hart.

Washington near Bridge—Abm. R. Rivera—old house.

Thames St. 131, 133. Formerly Residence & business place of Aaron Lopez. He rented the front house in Thames Street to the water for business purposes. The ware house now in a delapidated condition has 3 Stories. 1st was the magazine or Storehouse. In the 2nd he had his Office and in the 3d Story was his sail loft at least 200 feet long. In that portion of the 2nd Story which Mr. Lopez used for an office or counting room, I was shown the small partitions called pigeonholes with the names of his ships labelled on them. The property now belongs to and is occupied by the firm of Fitch Engs & Co., by whose kindness I was permitted to visit and examine it. Their business is Lumber & Hardware, Brick, Lime & Cement. George Engs bought it from Newport Bank 44 years ago. The way I came to visit this place is from a casual conversation with a fellow traveller on board the boat the evening whilst we were nearing Newport, when I asked where Lopez' wharf was. He told who now occupied the building & business place of Mr. Lopez and what I may see there if I take the trouble to call. His name I do not remember. The day after my visit to the old business place of Mr. Lopez Mr. Engs kindly sent me a piece of the Slat with some of the labels which he has caused to be removed from the pigeonholes. The names still legible were:

Schooner Eagle

Schooner Ranger

Sloop Jacob

Ship Ocean

The Slat was too long. I took a part and left the other at the Redwood Library.

Thames Street foot of Fare St—the old residence of the 3 beautiful Misses Judah, named Naomi, Grace & Huldah. Mr. Gould's information, 27 Aug. 1872 faulty I am afraid as regards the names.

North Baptist Street. Is this right—ought it not to be Marlborough St?

Site of yard West of North Baptist Church—There once stood the building residence of Mr. & Mrs. Myers in which Mordecai Myers was born.

In early times many Jewish residences in this street.

Tuckerman, "Graves of Newport"—Residence of Moses Seixas.

Mr. Tuckerman speaking of the dispersion of the Hebrews from Newport says: "The house near the wall long the hospitable abode of Levy became the home of the gallant Commodore Perry and was occupied by his widow until her death."

This building was formerly the property of Moses Levy who bequeathed it by his will & testament to his nephew Moses Seixas. Mr. Levy died 13 June 1792, and Mr. Seixas moved into this house Oct. 23, 1792. Here Naphtali Phillips in 1797, July 5, was married to his first wife Rachel, the daughter of M. Seixas and in 186 . . . . years afterward when        old, Mr. Phillips visited Newport again and by permission of Mrs. Perry he again visited this house and went through the different apartments, scenes of his early happiness.

*Likenesses & Portraits of Newport people.*

Mr. Gould told me that Joshua Lopez whose first wife was a Miss Touro once had in his possession a likeness of Abraham Touro which after the death of his first wife her brother Judah Touro asked for and Joshua Lopez would not give it to him. This refusal was the cause of the bad feeling that existed between them. It is said that Josh Lopez also had the likenesses of other Newport people among them one of Moses Michael Hays, father of Mrs. Isaac Touro. Mr. Rezin Shepherd once wrote to the father of Mr. Gould to try and get them from Mr. Lopez for Mr. Judah Touro but he did not succeed.

*Likeness of Judah Touro.*

The photograph in my possession, a copy of which I sent to Mr. Gould, was shown to Mr. Winthrop and recognized. Mr. Rezin Shepherd, it is said, once unknown to Mr. Touro had his Daguerreotype likeness taken by stealth. The artist fixed his camera outside the door which Mr. Shepherd kept opened for him to operate, when Mr. Touro least suspected what was going on. Mr. Shepherd placed the picture for safety under an old clock in the counting room from where it disappeared. It is likely it was found and copied after his death.

Haham Karigal.<sup>1</sup>

I learned from Mr. Elias Daniels that the tomb of *Haham* \* Karigal is in Barbadoes. Particulars may be obtained from his brother, Mr. S. E. Daniels, Barbadoes, from whom I shall try to obtain description of his tombstone and copy of inscription. Mr. E. Daniels said he remembered to have seen on the Stone several designs representing the *Haham* \* as a *Baal Tekihu*. \* Find out his age and everything concerning him. Whilst in Newport Mr. King did say he thought Mr. Karigal died in Barbadoes.<sup>2</sup>

Touro Street formerly known as Jew Street.

Read Henry Bull's contributions in the *Rhode Island Republican* concerning Newport, 1830-1832.

[No. 302]

[Letter from N. H. Gould to Rev. J. J. Lyons, Newport, Nov. 7, 1872— Receipt of Rabbi Karigal's picture acknowledged— Incloses abstract (other than Hebrew) of the tombstone inscriptions in the Jewish Cemetery— Gives estimate of cost of three views of the interior of the Synagogue— Also mentions that there is no copy of Nordheimer's Hebrew Grammar in the Redwood Library.

Letter from Rev. J. J. Lyons to N. H. Gould, New York, Nov. 19, 1872— Acknowledges receipt of abstracts of tombstone inscriptions in the Jewish Cemetery— No need of engravings to illustrate the Synagogue— Mentions sending two volumes of Nordheimer's Hebrew Grammar for presentation to the Redwood Library— Presents N. H. Gould with "Manual of the Corporation of New York" and also encloses \$20 to cover latter's expenses in procuring documents, etc.

Letter from N. H. Gould to Rev. J. J. Lyons, Newport, Dec. 13, 1872— Acknowledges with thanks the gift of books

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<sup>1</sup> [Much material concerning Karigal may be found in "The Literary Diary of Ezra Stiles." See Kohut, "Ezra Stiles and the Jews," New York, 1902.]

<sup>2</sup> [See *Publications*, No. 26, p. 251.]

for Redwood Library and himself— Returns \$20 sent as above, adding: "I esteem it ample reward to be able to contribute what little information I can toward perpetuating the History of the Israelites who left so glorious a reputation in this Community, one more valuable than the riches of an Astor, a Rothschild or a Pike."

Gives account of Jews in Leicester from an article on "History of Leicester" in *Worcester Magazine and Historical Journal*, printed in Worcester, Mass., 1826. This account appears more fully in an article by Leon Huhner, *Publications*, No. 11, pp. 75-99.

In connection with the foregoing items see Max J. Kohler, *Publications*, No. 6, pp. 61-80; Rev. Wolf Willner, *ibid.*, No. 8, pp. 119-126; M. Jastrow, Jr., *ibid.*, No. 10, pp. 5-36; Rev. George A. Kolhut, "Ezra Stiles and the Jews"; Leon Huhner, "Jews of Newport," New York, 1908; also article "Newport" in "Jewish Encyclopedia."

Letter from N. H. Gould to John Winthrop, Newport, Oct. 3, 1872, enclosing photograph of Judah Touro with request for Mr. Winthrop's opinion of it as a likeness.

Letter from John Winthrop to N. H. Gould, Providence, Oct. 3, 1872, returning photograph of Judah Touro. "It is a strong likeness of him in every way—perhaps too strong to retain the amiability which so softened and pervaded his countenance and which the artist has not been able to transfer."

Item describing likeness of Gershom Seixas on a medal, the property of Moses Solomons, and giving Latin inscription, "*Gershom M. Seixas Congregationis Hebraeae Sacerdos Novi Eboraci*", and on the robe "Furst" with the name of the artist.

A photograph of this medal appears in *Publications*, No. 6, p. 130. Compare Leon Huhner, "Gershom Mendes Seixas" in the *Jewish Comment*, January 10, 1902; also N. Taylor Phillips in "The American Jewish Year Book 5665", pp. 40-51.]



ITEMS RELATING TO CORRESPONDENCE OF JEWS WITH  
GEORGE WASHINGTON.

1790—Letter of Trustees of K. K. S. I. to Newport Congregation—invitation to join in a general address of the Hebrews to Gen. Washington.

NEW YORK June 20<sup>th</sup> 1790

In Adjunta

Present	
Isaac Moses Parnas	presidente
Solomon Simson P.	Residente
Manuel Myers	} Junta
Uriah Hendricks	
Benj <sup>a</sup> . S. Judah &	
Isaac H. Levy	

It was agreed that the following circular Letter be wrote to our Bretheren of the different Congregations in the United States—

Gentlemen/

We are desirous of addressing the President of the United States in one general address, comprehending all the Congregations professing our Holy religion in America, as we are led to understand that mode will be less irksome to the president then troubling him to reply to every individual address—

We should have given a previous invitation had not our local situation, for this some time past prevented us—That obsticle being removed, We are therefore authorised in behalf of this Congregation & others who may unite with us for this purpose—to request you'll join, by giving us permission to Include you in the Address—

We will be thankful if you'l transmit us a draft in what manner you would be desirous of having the address worded,

that thereby we may collect the different Ideas of the Congregations, in whose behalf we may address—

We do not by any means, conceive ourselves well treated by the Georgians, who have officiously come forward without any previous notice & any essential Service to themselves & hurtful to our feelings, as nothing of that nature could have been required of them, unless done on a general plan—

Your Answer as soon as possible will be acceptable.

We are in behalf of the Congregation—Gentlemen

Your most Obedt. Serv<sup>ts</sup>

ISAAC MOSES Par<sup>s</sup>. Pres<sup>t</sup>,

SOLOMON SIMSON

The Congregation of Rhode Island

Addressed on back as follows:

Mr. Moses Seixas<sup>1</sup>

Merch<sup>t</sup>.

Rhode Island

[No. 175]

1790—Letter of Moses Seixas of Newport to K. K. S. I. on the suggestion of a joint address to General Washington.

NEW PORT July 2<sup>d</sup> 1790.

Gentlemen

A few days ago, I received a Letter superscribed to me, but on unfolding it, I found it was directed to *The Congregation of Rhode Island*, and under the signature of Isaac Moses, Parn<sup>s</sup>. Pres<sup>t</sup>. & Solomon Simson. Had I not had the pleasure of being acquainted with those Gentlemen & the Others mentioned therein, it would have puzzled me exceedingly, to have discovered from whence the Letter had originated, & to whom it was intended, but having knowledge of the Gent<sup>rs</sup>.,

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<sup>1</sup> [For further references to Moses Seixas, see index to this volume, and also Index volume of *Publications*.]

I readily concluded it to be what beyond doubt it will prove to be, namely a Letter from the Parnassim & Adjuntoes of the Kaal Kadosh Seerit Israel in New York to the Kaal Kadosh Yeshuat Israel in New Port Rhode Island. and in confidence of which I have admitted its being perused by the Members thereof in general. & they have requested my replying thereto, which I shall now attempt to do, in as concise a manner as possible, after premiseing that when I make use of *We* it means the Kaal Kadosh Yeshuat Israel of this place, Who are of opinion, that as we are so small in number, it would be treating the Legislature & other large Bodies in this State, with a great degree of indelicacy, for us to address the President of the United States, previous to any of them, & therefore from motives of diffidence, & an ardent desire to avoid giving umbrage, would wish to decline it at present. We much regret that those Congregations, which could with propriety have addressed him, at an early period, should have delayed it thus long, much more *Yours*, which from its Location ought to have been second to any other Religious Society whatsoever, and what plea you can now make to him for your apparent neglect, which almost amounts to disrespect, We cannot conceive, unless it is—*That you waited in full confidence of this State acceding to the Federal Constitution so as you might be join'd by us in the address*— If this should be the only reason which you can assign, & which we think is the only plausible one that can be offer'd, we do not wish to debar you thereof, & therefore if our suggestions are properly founded, consent to your connecting us in the address, notwithstanding our reluctance of becoming the primary addressers from this State— We deem it unnecessary to transmit you a draught of an address, because we are sensible it can be well composed at your place, & because we firmly rely on your being critically attentive that your sentiments will be properly express'd & *unequivocally*, relative to the Enfranchisement which is secured to us *Jews* by the Federal Constitution— However we should

be glad to be favor'd with a Copy thereof, previous to its being presented, promising to give you our opinion thereon in a few hours after we have perused it— By what has been written you'll readily perceive that we do not blame the conduct of the Georgians, they had an undoubted right to do as they did— If any regular system was to be adopted, it was incumbent on you from your Local situation, & as being the Eldest Congregation within the United States of America, to have form'd that System, & transmitted it to the Other Congregations, when no doubt they would have chearfully coincided therein, but for you to procrastinate a measure (which was eagerly embraced by all Publick Bodies) for a Year, without taking the least notice thereof, it might, & would readily be supposed, that you did not mean to pay any attention thereto, or if you did it was to be done on contracted principles— You'll excuse my Language, the Honor of Israel & the dignity of my native Congregation, may perhaps have excited me to write with more freedom than was actually necessary.

I have the Honor to be very Respectfully.

Gentlemen

Your most humble Servant

MOSES SEIXAS

The Parnassim & Adjuntoes of the Kaal Kadosh Seerit Israel  
New York

Addressed on back as follows:

The Parnassim & Adjuntoes of  
the Kaal Kadosh Seerit Israel.

New-York.

[No. 176]

1790—Draft of a letter from Moses Seixas of Newport to the Trustees of K. K. S. I. on the subject of addresses to General Washington. [See No. 176, pp. 218-220.]

[No. 174]

Letter of K. K. Beth Elohim, Charleston, to K. K. S. I., New York, on the Subject of Address to Genl. Washington.

Gentlemen

Agreeable to your request, we had the pleasure of addressing you the 15<sup>th</sup> July last by Capt. Shaffield; inclosing you a form of an address to be presented to the President of the United States, under cover to Mr. Isaac Moses, to which we have not been fortunate enough to receive a Reply. consequently we are left in the dark and know not whether such general address has ever been presented, at all events should it not, on the receipt of this we beg you will not include us in the same, as we think it has been too tardy in the delivery.

We are respectfully

Gentlemen

Done in Adjunta of  
K. K. Beth Elohim

yr very Obt. Serv<sup>ts</sup>

PHILIP HART

P. P.

CHARLESTON 20 Nov<sup>r</sup>: 1790

I. COHEN

To Mess<sup>rs</sup>. Isaac Moses & Solomon Simson—  
Endorsed thus:

2d

To

Mess<sup>rs</sup>. Isaac Moses & Sol. Simson

Parnassim, or to the Parnassim for the time being—

of the Congregation distingd. by the name

of *Shearith Israel* \* in

New York.

[No. 51]

Letter of Manuel Josephson to K. K. S. I. on the presentation  
of a joint address to Gen. Washington.

PHILADELPHIA 14<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup>. 1790

Gentlemen

In consequence of your Letter of 25<sup>th</sup> November covering  
proceedings of the Trustees on that day, empowering me to

include your Congregation & those of Charleston & Richmond in our intended address to the President of the United States; I complied with your wish: And yesterday had the honour to present the same to him in person, and was favoured with his answer, as you will observe by the Newspaper herewith inclosed— I made it a point to inform the President verbally, the reasons of your Congregation's seeming remissness in not having paid their respects before; and he appeared perfectly satisfied—

I hope the whole will meet your approbation which will be highly pleasing to me— That Concord & Peace may preside in your Congregation, is the wish of

MANUEL JOSEPHSON

To Mr. Solomon Simson—President  
and the Trustees of K. K. *Shearith Israel* \*  
in New York

Addressed on back as follows:

Mr. Solomon Simson—President  
and the Trustees of *Shearith Israel* \*  
In  
New York

[In connection with the foregoing items, see Lewis Abraham, *Publications*, No. 3, pp. 87-96, and Leon Huhner, *ibid.*, No. 12, pp. 58-61, the latter of which contains a copy of the letter presented by the South Carolina Congregation.

[No. 170]

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS RELATING TO JEWS OF NORTH  
AMERICA.

Hebrew hymns and prayers after an earthquake which destroyed a number of Jewish homes [probably in the West Indies] during the reign of George II, [1727-1760]. Paper in MS. from Mr. Dd. Seixas, with sermons, etc., from his father, Rev. Gershom Seixas.

[No. 81]

Indorsed "Old Hebrew Prayer in Time of Revolt of the Negroes. Probably in Surinam."

[No date. The only clue being an acrostic "*David Hezekiah Hazan*,"<sup>1</sup> which may lead to obtaining a date.]

God, blessed and mighty through Eternity, Oh Lord of Hosts, we come as suppliants before Thee to pray for the peace of the country as Thou hast commanded by Thy prophet:

"Seek the peace of the city whither I have banished you and pray on its behalf unto the Lord, for in its peace shall you have peace." (Jer. xxix, 7.)

Oh, Lord our King! Exalted, mighty and tremendous Creator of all, who givest answer in times of trouble, have compassion upon us; have mercy, save and deliver those who are setting out to fight our enemies the negroes, cruel and rebellious.

Oh, Lord of Hosts, lead them in peace and guide them towards life according to their desires. Redeem them from the hand of the wicked and the oppressor; from sickness and ambush, from spoilers and plunderers on the road, from evil and dangerous beasts, from the snakes and serpents in the woods and on the plains, from all injury and loss both by day and by night. As it is written: "Thou shalt not fear the terror of the night nor the arrow that flieth by day, nor the pestilence that stalketh in the darkness nor the disease that wasteth at noonday." (Ps. xci., 5, 6.)

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<sup>1</sup> [There is a David Hezekiah Baruch Luzado, who is mentioned by Rev. P. A. Hilfman in his article on the Jews of Surinam, *Publications*, No. 18, p. 182.]

[Here follow a number of additional appropriate quotations from Scripture.]

Teach and guide them with good counsel and the spirit of Thy knowledge, be to them strength and refuge to subdue, to conquer and destroy beneath their feet all cruel and rebellious Africans, our enemies who are planning evil against us.

[Here follow several additional quotations from Scripture.]

Lord, Creator Everlasting, May it be Thy will to preserve, save and deliver our soldiers going forth to war; give them success, that they may prosper everywhere. May their march and their camping be for our good, and for progress. Bring them to freedom and lead them back uninjured and without loss. Return them in glory, in victory and in peace. As it is written: "The Lord will guard thy going out and thy coming in henceforth and forever." (Ps. cxxi, 8.)

Oh, living God, our Rock, have Thou mercy, fight our battles and avenge us where vengeance is just. Ward off from our homes, tears and pestilence and destruction. Keep them from our land and its confines.

Listen to our prayer for Thou art He who heareth the prayers of all. Amen.

[No. 205]

1744. Copy of Oath of Allegiance to George II and Oath of Abjuration.

I, A. B. do Sincerely Promise & Swear, That I will be faithfull & bear True Allegiance to his Majesty King George the Second So help me God.

I, A. B do Swear That I do from my heart abhor, Detest & abjure as Impious & heretical that Damnable Doctrine & Position That Princes Excommunicated or Deprived by the Pope or any authority of the Sea of Rome may be Deposed or murdered by their Subjects or any other whatsoever, and I do declare that no foreign Prince, person, Prelate, State or Potentate, hath or ought to have any Jurisdiction, Power, Superiority, Preheminence, or Authority, Ecclesiastical, or Spiritual within the Realm of Great Britain, So help me God.



I, A. B do truly & Sincerely Acknowledge Profess Testifie & Declare in my conscience before God & the world That our Sovereign Lord King George the Second is Lawfull and Rightfull King of Great Brittain & of all other his Majesties Dominion & Countries thereunto belonging & I do Solemnly & Sincerely Declare, That I believe in my conscience That the person Pretended to be prince of Wales during the Life of the Late King James & Since his Decease pretending to be & taking upon himself the Stile & Title of King of England by the name of James the third or of Scotland by the name of James the Eighth or the Stile & Title of King of great Brittain, hath not any Right or Title whatsoever to the Crown of great Brittain or any other the Dominions Thereunto belonging, and I do Renounce, Refuse & abjure any Allegiance or obedience to him, & I do Swear that I will bear Faith & true Allegiance to his Majesty King George the Second & him will defend to the utmost of my Power against all Traiterous Conspiracies and attempts whatsoever, which shall be made against his Person, Crown or Dignity, and I will do my utmost Endeavour to Disclose & make known to his Majesty & his Successors all Treasons & Traiterous Conspiracies, which I shall know to be against him, or any of them and I do Faithfully promise to the utmost of my Power, To Support maintain & Defend the Succession of the Crown against him the said James & all other Persons whatsoever, which Succession by an Act Intituled an Act for the further Limitation of the Crown & better Securing the Rights and Liberties of the Subject is & Stands Limited, To the Princess Sophia Electoress & Dutchess Dowager of Hanover, and the Heirs of her Body being Protestants & all these things I do plainly & Sincerely acknowledge & swear according to these Express words by me Spoken & according to the Plain & common Sence and understanding of the Same words, without any Equivocation Mental Evasion or Secret Res-

ervation whatsoever, and I do make this Recognition acknowledgement, Abjuration, Renunciation & Promise heartily willingly & Truly [upon the True faith of a Christian] <sup>1</sup> So help me God

[Here follow sixteen names, but as these have been imperfectly transcribed, the reader is referred to the more complete list taken from the original record, in Leon Huhner, *Publications*, No. 13, p. 6. See also J. H. Hollander, *ibid.*, No. 5, pp. 103-117.]

[No. 224]

MS. in Dutch giving Order of Service and Special Prayers for averting cholera. No date.

[No. 303]

January 27, 1775. Fragment of MS. Minutes of Beth Elohim Congregation, Charleston, South Carolina.

[Resolution by members and several original incorporators of the Congregation reciting illegal acts of Emanuel Abrahams and Myer Moses in violation of rules of Congregation which had been adopted in 1756, and designating Isaac Da Costa and Isaac Da Costa, Jr., to prepare a diplomatic letter to the two parties mentioned and also to Israel Joseph, calling their attention to their illegal procedure and to bring about some satisfactory understanding.

Mr. Isaac Da Costa notified the trustees that Jacob Tobias had generously granted a seven years' lease of two rooms in his new house in Hasells Street for the temporary use of the Synagogue. Resolved that Mr. Tobias have a Miseberach on every Kipur night during his lifetime.

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<sup>1</sup> [The words in brackets were permitted to be omitted by Jews.]





## THE SYNAGOGUE OF CHARLESTON, S. C.

Erected 1795 Destroyed by Fire 27<sup>th</sup> Ap<sup>l</sup> 1838.

*This print is Dedicated with Great respect to Judah A. Mott<sup>r</sup> Esq<sup>r</sup>*  
*by his very obedient and obliged Friend:*  
*Solomon N. Carvalho*

Mr. Isaac Da Costa also announced the purchase in his own name of part of lot on King Street for £416.10 for the purpose of building a synagogue thereon, and that Isaac Da Costa, Abram Da Costa, Isaac De Leon, Isaac Da Costa, Jr., and Jacob Tobias had given their bonds to secure the payment mentioned.]

[No. 304]

1782—Copy of Bill of Exchange Haym Salomon in favor of Jb. Cohen & Co. on Edmund Randolph for tobacco, together with Letter of Eugene Jackson in latter's handwriting.

PHILADELPHIA 17<sup>th</sup> March 1782

Exchange for 12000 wt Inspected James River Tobacco

On or before the 10<sup>th</sup> day of April next Pay this my first of Exchange (Second and Third) not paid to M<sup>r</sup> Jacob Cohen & Co or order Twelve thousand Groce wt of Good & Inspected James River Tobacco for Value Received of

Your humb Serv<sup>t</sup>.

HAYM SALOMON

Edmund Randolph Esq<sup>r</sup>

Richmond

Virginia

accepted

(signed) EDMUND RANDOLPH

NEW YORK

May 21/72

My Dear Sir

Enclosed I send you a copy of that Bill of Exchange I spoke to you of Sunday last— I believe this is one of a series forming the subsidy of the French Govt. to our Continental Govt. during the Revolution.— I also enclose copy of Senate Bill.— I have in the office a large parchment Deed made by Wm. Rhinelander to Haym Salomon of the property the cor. of Wall & Pearl Sts. (now known as the Tontine property) for Six thousand dolls.—

(6,000) The deed recites that the house is occupied by Anthony J Bleeker.— The deed bears date 1784.—

I hope these memo. will be of some service to you.—

With regards

Yours very truly

EUGENE J. JACKSON <sup>1</sup>

To

Rev<sup>d</sup> J. J. Lyons

Present

[No. 169]

[1785. Discourse in Dutch by Rev. Judah A. Devries on the Centennial Anniversary of the Synagogue *Newe Shalome*, Surinam. In this address the speaker regrets that many of the members of the Congregation are absent on Sabbaths and Holy Days.]

[No. 233]

*The Pennsylvania Packet & Daily Advertiser*, Monday, Decbr. 12, 1785. Philadelphia. Published by John Dunlap: and David C. Claypole. Contains anecdote about Oliver Cromwell and a Jew who furnished information which led to the capture of a large sum of money sent by the Spanish Government in a Dutch ship near Dover. [Printed in Burnet, "History of My Own Times," and in Lucien Wolf's "Cromwell's Jewish Intelligencers," in *The Jewish Literary Annual*, 1904, pp. 89-90, and in his "Menasseh ben Israel's Mission to Oliver Cromwell" (1901); also printed in Whitehall Conference, 250th Anniversary Celebration, in Vol. V. of the *Transactions* of the Jewish Historical Society of England; Max J. Kohler, "Menasseh ben Israel and Some Unpublished Pages of American History," in the *American Hebrew*, November 1, 1901; H. S. Q. Henriques, "The Return of the Jews to England," (1905).]

[No. 8]

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<sup>1</sup> [Mr. Eugene J. Jackson was a grandson of Haym Salomon. His wife was Rebecca Cohen, granddaughter of Jacob Cohen.]

Card found in a "Journal of a Voyage to the East, by I. H. Levy"—Ticket of admission to an exhibition in 1792.

[No. 310]

[July, 1800. Certificate in Dutch by Moses Robles de Medina, Regent of the Portuguese Congregation at Paramaribo, Surinam, certifying to ability of Solomon Gompertz as Shochet.]

[No. 97]

June 16, 1802. Certificate of membership of Judah Lyons<sup>1</sup> in Adelpic Society, Philadelphia.

[No. 325]

Note for \$100 payable to Aaron Levy.

100 Dollars.

PHILAD<sup>A</sup> April 30<sup>th</sup> 1804

At sight be pleased to pay to the order of Mr. Aaron Levy  
One Hundred Dollars on a/c K. K. Mickva Israel.

SIMON GRATZ	{ Committee for Building	
BENJ. NONES.		Wall round
		Burial Ground

Mr Naph Phillips  
Merchant  
New York

[No. 230]

Duties to the Dead and Dying. MS. torn and illegible in many places. Possibly in handwriting of I. B. Kursheedt whose name appears thereon. Date about 1811.

It is prohibited to move a Dying Person from his Place or to remove a Pillow from under him or to place anything under

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<sup>1</sup> [Judah Lyons was the father of Rev. J. J. Lyons.]

him, and not to give anything to him, Unless directed by the Physician and nothing to be done which may be the least means of hastening Death— If there is any Motion, Sound or noise which might retard death, a Stop may be put to it, also if any Salt should be on the Tongue it may be removed. It is Prohibited to prepare anything to be used after death, (Until the person is dead)— whoever is with a dying Person it is a Duty to inform him of his Situation that he may Pray to the Almighty, and many Instances are recorded of recoveries thereafter, and Suitable Prayers to be Said by a Dying Person and by those who are Present are to be found in the *Sepher Haim* \* which conclude with *Yigdal and Adon* \* When it appears that Death is near, the Bye standers should endeavour to form a Circle round him, and if possible to keep (the) Whole body Covered, even the hands, (and it is Customary to open a window) and (when it) appears that life is almost spent, Say *Hear O Israel and Blessed be His name* \* and Say Seven times and end as life goes out to finish with the word “One” (each Person present at the Death rends some Part of his garment and says as follows Page 88 then say *Vehe noam*.)

For at least a Quarter of an Hour the Corpse must not be touched.

A fine feather must then be placed on the mouth to notice if any Breath remains.

The Eyes must then be Closed & the Jaws tied up then Laid straight on the ground facing the side on which the door of the room is first observing to remove everything offensive from the Corpse, Cover it with the Black Cloth, & Place a lighted Candle at the Head.

Symptoms of Death are rattles in the throat, when the lips are [MS. torn] and white & the Nose Sharp, the Hands and Feet Cold as Death, and the Eyes fixed.



1819. Certificate of Conversion of Jacob Bar Abraham Abinu.

Translation of Hebrew certificate: (Copy)

We acknowledge by the seal of our hands as under that the Doctor Emanuel son of Jonah circumcised the proselyte Jacob son of Abraham our father, on Sunday after the section Hayye Sarah (Life of Sarah), the thirteenth day of the month Marcheshvan, in the year 5580 since the creation, also that he (Jacob) took the ritual bath in the presence of three witnesses on the Monday after the section "Vayetse" (And Jacob went forth), the fourth of Kislev, wherefore we have signed.

DOCTOR EMANUEL son of Jonah M. D.  
JACOB son of Eleazer faithful servant  
and officiant of the synagogue of the  
Ashkenazim, Congregation Rodeph  
Shalom, Philadelphia  
SOLOMON son of Jacob

[The English is as follows:]

PHILADELPHIA, November 22 1819

I do hereby certify that in the presence of the undersigned witnesses I did on the 19th day of the hebrew month of Heshvan 5580 corresponding with the 7th day of November 1819 circumcise the bearer of this and named him Jacob Bar Abraham Abinu and on the 22nd day of the same month he went to Bath and was regularly admitted (after complying with all the regulations and ceremonies enjoined by our laws) a member of our holy religion (the Hebrew) he being fully sensible of the truth of the Jewish faith and the Unity of the Divine Being.

Signed and Sealed in the Presence of

Signed MANUEL PHILLIPS M D

Signed

JACOB LIPMAN

A. W. PHILLIPS

SOLOMON MORDECAI

Seal

*Naphtali son of Judah*  
*Parnas of the holy Congregation*  
*Shearith Israel*  
*New York \**

[Here follows the certificate in English:]

I Naphtali Phillips Parnass of the K. K. Shearith Israel do certify that Doctor Manuel Phillips who signed the within certificate is well known to me to be a *Mohel* \* and qualified to perform the covenant of circumcision and that full faith is to be given to his declarations in

Witness Whereof I have hereunto affixed the Seal of Said Congregation at New York the 8<sup>th</sup> day of Kislieu 5580 corresponding with 26 November 1819.

Signed NAPHTALI PHILLIPS Parnass  
Seal

Copied from the Original this 3<sup>d</sup> day of Jan<sup>r</sup> 1820 in Tebet 5580  
[No. 155]

“ Behold I build an House to the name of the Lord my God ”  
to dedicate it to him.

“ And the house which I build is great—for great is our God.” 2nd Chronicles 4 & 5.

RICHMOND March, 1822

D<sup>r</sup> Sir—

We cannot in the language of *Solomon* \* in the text say, that the house which we are about to build can be “ great ”, we hope to build an humble but suitable *Shool* \* adapted to our slender means and are cheered in the hope—when we reflect—that the God of Israel requires from each,—only according to his ability.

You already know, that our former *Shool* \* was prostrated several years ago—that since then the whole congregation has been without one, that as a reparation for the injury Doc<sup>r</sup> Adams, then on the pinnacle of prosperity became the purchaser at a high price nominally but he has also fallen.— and we shall get but a very inconsiderable part of the purchase money; we have however secured out of it an eminently beautiful seite for another.

The undersigned have been appointed a Com<sup>ee</sup> to solicit and collect subscriptions and take pleasure in assuring you, that considering the pressure of the “ times ”, the disappoint-

ments peculiar to this place, the few *Jews* \* in it, and most of those in needy circumstances with large families to provide for, their success has fully equalled their expectations.

In pursuance of this appointment, and for an object so laudable, we consider ourselves performing a duty not less due to the occasion, than pleasant to your feelings to ask your aid—in erecting a House—to be dedicated to the God of Israel in which the congregation *Beth Shalome* \*—(of which you are the——[sic] & Founder) may offer up their adorations to the throne of grace & mercy—assured as we are that you will gladly avail yourself of the opportunity of manifesting your munificence and sealing your name upon this *Shool* \* and this congregation where it will not fail to be cherished in the most remote remembrance, finishing as it were in the evening of your days the work you began in the prime of life.

If the committee could be permitted to express another sentiment in behalf of the congregation—it would be the pleasure they should have in your personal presence among them in the *Shool* \* now to be erected, and again to hear—as in days of yore, the gladdening sound of your voice on the great day of *Kippur* \* announcing *Neilah*.\*

[No. 333]

Letter of H. Lehren and others of Amsterdam to the Jews of  
Baltimore, in the interest of the Jews of the Holy Land.

AMSTERDAM 20 *Sivan* 5583 \* [June 2, 1823]

To

The President & &—  
of the Congregation

Baltimore                      Gentlemen & Brethren

I crave your reference to the circular of the Chief Rabbi of England the Rev<sup>d</sup> Dr. Solomon Hirschel, respecting our poor Brethren in *the land of Israel*,\* and here I beg your attention to the object of my *Mission* from the *Holy Land*, it is a Custom of dire necessity to Send from *the land of Israel* \*

Missionaries to every part of the world, where our Brethren the Seed of our Fathers, Abraham Isaac & Jacob are in Congregation to receive the Collections which they contribute yearly for our Pious Brethren in the Holy Land, for men whose lives are devoted to the service of the God of our forefathers, for men whose very lives are held on a Precarious tenor, through the [prejud]ice of a Pasha, when he is inclined to extort money.

Your Brethren in Europe have ever been Zealous for the welfare and quiet of their brethren in Jerusalem, who tho under the Tribulations of Tyranical Despots, tho Strangers in their own Country still consider the Title Deeds in our possession. Let it not be said that our Atlantic Brethren have not the same Blood of commiseration flow in their veins! God forbid, that Israel dispersed in distant Climes, should thereby be distanced from that which is inherent in Israel (charity) no dear Brethren, we are of one Stock a fine exception of all nations, we who have withstood the wreck of Time and the Extinction of nations, we who are the Standing miracle upon the Ruins of forgotten Empires, we yes! we still Exult in our Primitive national character, in possessing the same milk of Compassion and Brotherly Kindness to each other, when Called upon for Brotherly Succor.

Let me therefore Beseech you my dear Brethren, to make your collections in the same manor as done in Europe, in having a *land of Israel* \* Box in your Synagogues, when persons making their offerings, offer at the same time to the Box for *the land of Israel*; \* also every Private family put by a Trifle every week or month in their Houses, such contributions are Remitted (through a new appointed *land of Israel* \* Treasurer in America) to the Chief Rabbi in London, or to the General Treasurer H. Lehren, Esq<sup>r</sup>, Amsterdam, with Private donations (if no Injury to the Principle object) for your Missionary *R. Benjamin Ashkenazi*,\* your Charity will be the means of Subsisting many poor pious familys, whoes Prayers will be

offered at the Shrines of our departed Sires, for your Health and prosperity,

I am

Gentlemen & Brethren

your faithfull Servant

and of your Brethren in *the land of Israel Benjamin Zeeb Ashkenazi, messenger from the holy city, (may it be rebuilt speedily in our days!)\**

We the undersign<sup>d</sup> the Overseers, Distributers, and Treasurer for the Holy Land, do hereby Certify the aforesaid Mission of *R. Benjamin Ashkenazi* \* as by our Seal this 20<sup>th</sup> day of *Sivan* \* A M 5583—

H. LEHREN

AB<sup>m</sup> S PRINS

S. B. RUBENS

Seal

[Addressed on the back as follows:]

To

The President & &  
of the Congregation of the Jews  
Baltimore

[No. 225]

1823. Service in Hebrew on occasion of the visit of (Governor?) Abraham Defehr of Surinam to the Synagogue, arranged by Tobia b. Abraham Mordecai.

[No. 332]

Philadelphia, June 29, 1823. Letter from D. G. Seixas to M. L. M. Peixotto of New York, giving Hebrew name of Mr. Solomons as Shelomo bar Uri.

A separate slip gives the following:

Mrs. Solomons	Guitla bar Menachem Shelomo bar Uri
Lucius Levi Solomons	Luche bar Salomon
Samuel David Solomons	Ashar bar Selomoh
Levy Solomons	Levy bar Solomon

[No. 152]

Account of laying of Cornerstone of Settlement of the Jews at Grand Island, State of New York—projected by M. M. Noah. (1825.) Translated into Dutch by I. E. Lyons. [See Max J. Kohler, *Publications*, No. 8, pp. 84-91, 97-118; and Daly, "The Settlement of the Jews in North America." See also Address of M. M. Noah at Cornerstone Laying, *Publications*, No. 21, pp. 230-252.]

[No. 1]

May 5, 1837. Dedication of New Synagogue at Surinam. Printed in Dutch.

[No. 29]

1840—Bound Brook, N. J.—A *shofar*—a killing knife—traces of a Beth Haim.

Mr. George Burras told Mr. Naphtaly Phillips that there are yet to be found in Bound Brook near Brunswick, New Jersey, a *Shofar* \* and a *Chalef*,\* killing knife, that formerly belonged to Jews that used to reside there—There are also the traces of a Jewish Beth Haim.

[Newspaper advertisements show that before 1760 Moses and Aaron Louzado, Jews, resided at Bound Brook, N. J., and the Congregation Shearith Israel's Register of Deaths mentions the death of Aaron Louzado there in 1764 and the subsequent removal of his body to New York for interment. The Committee is indebted for this reference to Mr. Samuel Oppenheim.]

[No. 223]

November 3, 1840. Circular by Jacob Ezekiel, Gabay of Congregation at Richmond, Va., in regard to Rev. E. J. Lyons who had come from Surinam to obtain position as Hazan.

[No. 252]

MS. Calendar of events by Rev. J. J. Lyons, extracted from  
the *Occident* and the *Asmonean*.

[The following extracts from the *Asmonean* are of interest:]

In 1849, service was held on Rosh Hashonah and Yom Kippur  
in San Francisco in a temporary tent, 30 persons being  
present. Vol. 1, p. 6.

In 1849, September 24, Adjournment of the House of Assembly  
of Kingston, Jamaica, on motion of Dr. Spaulding, on the  
Day of Kippur, as an act of courtesy to the seven Jews  
of the House. *Ibid.*, p. 6.

1849, Governor of New South Wales grants plans for a school  
house for the Jews of Sydney. Vol. 2, p. 55.

1850, Joseph Moses, formerly of New York, elected alderman  
of Brownsville, Texas. *Ibid.*, p. 6.

1850, Consecration of synagogue in Buffalo. *Ibid.*, p. 108.

1850, August 9, Appeal for contributions for building a syna-  
gogue in Chicago for members residing there. Vol. 3,  
p. 124.

1850, Yom Kippur service at Colluma on the Uber River. *Ibid.*,  
p. 28.

[No. 339]

Philadelphia, 24 Adar 5615 [March 14, 1855]. *Ketubah* of  
Sabato, son of Samuel Morais, and Clara Esther, daughter of  
Henry Isaac Weil.

[No. 335]

Printed Programme<sup>1</sup>  
of Special Service  
on the occasion of the Emancipation of the Slaves,  
held Wednesday, July 1, 1863,  
at the Synagogue of the Dutch Israelite Community,  
[Surinam]

I.

Introductory Hymn  
by the Precentor  
"Come Let us sing"  
Psalm XCV. v.1-6.

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<sup>1</sup> [Translated from the Dutch.]

## II.

Congregational Singing.

Psalm 117 and 118, verses 1-14

Psalm 118, verses 21-25.

## III.

Prayer for His Majesty the King and the Government

## IV.

Sermon

## V.

Intermezzo

Psalm LXVII

Concluding Hymn

Adon Olam.

[No. 30]

Abstract from catalogue of books in the State Library at  
Albany, 1872.

[No. 331]



## LOG BOOK OF THE SHIP SANSOM.

[This log book is inscribed: "Isaac H. Levy's Journal, 1798," and shows conditions, etc., of a voyage between New York, Madras and Calcutta. It was evidently kept by Mr. Levy.<sup>1</sup>

On the first page is the entry: "January 31, 1798. This day at 9 o'clock got under way in company of a number of vessels bound out, and at 11.30 discharged Mr. Daniels, our pilot. I wrote by him to my Hon<sup>d</sup>. Mother."

The log then continues day by day, giving latitude, course, winds, etc., in tabulated form, (the usual form of log). The voyage lasted several months.

Under date of April 1st, 1798, after the usual formal ship entries is the following:

"This being the first day of Pesach, Mr. Moses<sup>2</sup> and myself kept it with strictness, as much so as was possible on board a ship. God send we may spend the next one in New York."

On June 19th, 1798, they landed at Madras. An entry on June 20th reads as follows:

"This day nothing particular transpired. Messrs. Moses and Wallace out about business, dined at Mr. Harts.

"Thursday. . . . In the evening in C<sup>o</sup>. with Capt<sup>n</sup>. S. Hubbart, Messrs. Moses & Wallace and Dr. Davidson went to Blacktown to see a procession of the Gods of the Moors, it being a festival among them. It consisted of 6 Elephants, two of them of the most enormous size, camels, seapoys on horseback, etc. These were the property of the Nabob of Arcot."

On June 29th the ship went on, and on July 4th, 1798, appears the statement: "This being the anniversary of American independence we kept it as was becoming American citizens."

The ship started back from Madras to New York on October 17th, 1798, but by March 6th, 1799, the ship had not yet reached New York. The pages of the rest of the book have been torn out and are missing.]

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<sup>1</sup> [Isaac H. Levy is frequently mentioned in the Minute Book of Congregation Shearith Israel, *q. v.* He was a son of Hayman Levy; see *Publications*, No. 4, p. 210. See also index to this volume.]

<sup>2</sup> [Probably a son of Isaac Moses.]

RECEIPT BOOK OF THE CONGREGATION SHEARITH  
ISRAEL.

[This Receipt Book begins in 1783 and ends in 1804. The first receipt is as follows:]

Received 25 Dec<sup>r</sup> 1783 by the hands of Isaac H. Levy £10 as a present according to a resolve of the Congregation on the 26th Cislieu 5544.

£10

JACOB COHEN.

[It seems to have been the receipt book of salaried officers and of committees as well as for incidental expenses. There are receipts by Moses Hays, Jacob Cohen, A. A. Van Ottingen and Uriah Hendricks (in connection with enlarging the burying ground). Jacob Cohen figures as Hazan, his last receipt in that capacity being dated March 29, 1784. Isaac H. Levy seems to have been Gabay [Treasurer] during 1783 and 1784.]

Received in New York 3 Feb<sup>r</sup> 1784 of Isaac H Levy 8 shillings for Cutting down the Picketts of the Beth Haim.

£0. 8. 0

SAM GOOLD

Received 12 Feb<sup>r</sup> 1784 of Isaac H. Levy One Pound 1/ being in full for Storing, Carting and Cutting down Picketts at the Beth Haim.

£1. 1

EDMUND KINGSLAND

Received 12<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>r</sup> 1784 of Isaac H. Levy Two hundred and twenty Six Picketts which I promise to keep in my cellar and deliver them to Mr. Hayman Levy or his Order when call'd on.

EDMUND KINGSLAND

[From a receipt it appears that Moses Hays was the Shamas in 1784.]

Rec<sup>d</sup> 25 March 1784 of Isaac H. Levy five Shillings in full for riding Bricks and Sand for the Bath.

JAMES EGBERT

[Here follow a number of other items relating to repairs to the Bath.]

1784. Receipt of Joseph A. Myers.

1784, April 14. Receipt of Henry Varick for making candles.

Received 25th April 1784 of Isaac H. Levy Two Pounds 18/6 being in full for setting the Picketts and removing the fence at the *Beth Haim* \* as p Agreement.

£2.18. 6

EDMUND KINGSLAND

Received in New York 29 April 1784 of Isaac H. Levy, One Pound 4/ being for Surveying the Jews Burial Place.

£1. 4

JOHN MCOMB

Rec'd 12<sup>th</sup> May 1784 of M<sup>r</sup> Isaac Levy Gabay, the sum of sixteen pound on acco't of Salary as Hazan.

£16

GERSHOM SEIXAS.

Received 19<sup>th</sup> July 1784 of Isaac H. Levy the Sum of four Pounds eight Shillings and one Penny being for Sundries had for the Synagogue and burying Ground for Peter Goelet.

£4. 8. 1

PETER P. GOELET

1792 Receipt of Benjm. Ra. Jacobs, Shochet.

Rec<sup>d</sup>. in full of M<sup>r</sup>. Zunts the Sum of three Pounds ten Shillings for Drawing a Deed of the Congregation of Sheareth Israel for M<sup>r</sup> Hughes.

£3.10

per <sup>m</sup>e WILLIAM GOFORTH

1784 Receipt of Andrew Morris for wax.

Receipts of Benja Seixas and Simon Nathan for salary of Rev. Gershom Seixas.

Rec<sup>d</sup>. New York January 10<sup>th</sup> 1785 of Alex<sup>r</sup> Zuntz Eight pounds 19/ beeing in full as a Gifft of K. K. Shearith Israel for Lodging & other Expenses.

£8.19

ISAAC SAMUEL, Polak

1786 Receipt of Isaac Michel.

1788 Receipt of Riche Myers for board and lodging of Jacob & David Pinto, Strangers.

Rec<sup>d</sup> New York December 5<sup>th</sup> 1790 of Isaac M. Gomez One hundred pounds on account of the House which I am to build in Mill Street for the Congregation of Shaerith Israel as p<sup>r</sup> Contract of 2<sup>d</sup> instant.

£100

JOHN MOORE

Rec<sup>d</sup> from Isaac Moses Prd. to the Board of Trustees, One Pound Two shillings & Nine Pence for Putting up the Wall before the Synagogue, Nyk. 17 July, 1790.

£1. 2. 9

JOHN M COMB

1790 Receipt of Samuel Lazarus.

1791 January, Receipt of Aaron Cohen.

1792 For repairing and cleaning the branches and candlesticks.

JAMES KIP

1792 Receipts of Simeon Levy, Abigail Hays, Alexr Zuntz.

1793 Receipt of Manuel Myers.

Rec<sup>d</sup>. New York Aug<sup>t</sup>. 9<sup>th</sup> 1793 of Alex<sup>r</sup> Zuntz One pound as a Donation of K. K. Shearith Israel.

£1. 1

MYKEL FISHER

1793 Receipts of Joseph Ozeley and Bernard Hart.

1794 Receipt of Saml. Abrahams.

1795 Receipt of Isaac Levi, Shochet.

Received of Mr. Bernard Hart the Sum of thirteen pounds and four Shillings in full of my Acco<sup>t</sup>. to 23<sup>d</sup>. May last past, as Clerk to the Trustees of K. K. Shearith Israel.

June 9<sup>th</sup> 1795

E. LYTE

1796 Receipt of Mark Solomon.

1797 Receipt for \$25—for the Congregation as a fee for Brockholst Livingston.

1797 Receipt of Joshua Isaacs for money towards purchase of lot in Beaver Street.

1800 May 14—Rec<sup>d</sup> for Baking passover Bread, flour, etc.

JOHN VARICK.

1800 October 3—Receipt of Rachel Hays for board of Michael Hays.

List of loose Receipts. Received by Jacob Hart Sen., Treasurer, for moneys expended from March 2<sup>d</sup> 1801 to August 22<sup>d</sup>, Being the Time that the late Treasurer Joshua Isaacs withheld the Books and papers from the Congregation Untill compelled by Law to Restore them.

Reced of M<sup>r</sup> Benj. Gomez two Dollars for Stamps on Policies on Houses N<sup>o</sup>. 40 Beaver Street and 20 Mill Street, for Sam<sup>l</sup> Boyd.

\$2

JOHN JAY

1802 Receipt of M. Valentine for paint and glazing

Receipts of Naphtali Judah, Isaac Abrahams, Isaac M. Gomez, Cary Judah, Abraham Isaacs; W. Hardinbrook for cleaning and repairing branches and candlesticks.

New York 16<sup>th</sup> September 1802 Received of Benjamin Gomez Fifty Pounds in full for one Quarter's Salary as Hazan, due the 15th Instant as per order N<sup>o</sup> 47.

£50. 0. 0

JOS. G. SEIXAS

DAVID G. SEIXAS

Rec<sup>d</sup> New York 2<sup>d</sup> November 1802 of Benjamin Gomez Thirty five pounds in full for One Quarters Salary as Rabbi of Polonies Talmud Torah . . . . for G. Seixas.

DAVID G. SEIXAS.

order No. 53

1803 Receipts of Louis Jones, Printer; Joseph Andrews; I. B. Kursheedt for Books and Sundries for Polonies Talmud Torah; Jacob Hays; N. Phillips; Haim Levy; Aaron Levy, purchase of lots at Greenwich.

### GOMEZ LEDGER.

[The following items, covering dates from 1739 to 1765, are taken from a large folio ledger of a member of the Gomez family. This ledger probably belonged to Daniel Gomez as appears from certain entries and letters found therein; e. g., "to my son Moses Gomez"—"to my nephew Isaac Gomez"—"my brother Benjamin"—"my nephew Jacob Gomez"—"my brother David Gomez"—etc.]

The accounts cover almost every conceivable kind of merchandise; stockings, clothing, ginger, powder, swords, preserved goods, silks, sailcloth, etc.; they also show interest in various vessels. From the credit side it is also evident that the firm imported large quantities of pork.

Among the accounts and names appearing in this old ledger are the following:]

Áaron, Hart, & Cohen, Jacob, of New Town, 1759

Abeal David, 1741

Abela, Sarah, & Tauares, Abm., 1753

Abenater, Isaac, Mercht. att Curoco, 1750

Abriscus, Carsporos, 1747

Agner, Wm., 1760

Almeyda, Jacob, of Jamaica, 1745

Angerson, John, of New Rochel, 1749

Antunes, Joseph, of New Rochel, 1758

Applegate, Jos., of Brunswick, 1741

Banker, Adrian, 1765

Batty, David, of Hemsted, 1749

Beekmon, Gerardos, 1741

Belding, Capt. Jerard, of Newhaven, 1750

Berrion, John, Bucher, 1749

Birje, of Amsterdam, 1749

Bogart, Cornelios, 1742

Bolt, Elidia, of New Rochel, 1741

Bon, Salomon Haim, 1741

Brandon, Moses & Isaac, of Jamaica, 1749  
 Brashor, Isaac, 1749  
 Bravo, Abm., Mercht., in Jamaica, 1763  
 Brinerhoof, Jores, 1742  
 Burgos, Capt. Abm., 1744  
 Bush, Abm., 1745  
 Bush, Isaac, 1745  
 Cambel, Wm., and Duffy, Archibold, 1749  
 Cardoso, Jacob and Hays, Isaac, 1743  
 Caruallo, Abm., Mercht. of Barbados, 1748  
 Casres, Saml. & Joseao Idanah De, of Curoco, 1764  
 Cecord, Petter, of New Rochel, 1750  
 Chaves, Aron de, my brother in law, of Curoco, 1748  
 Chaves, Jeoshuah De, 1771  
 Chaves, Sarah De of Curoco, 1747  
 Clinton, George, Esq<sup>r</sup>, his Exc<sup>y</sup> the Hounorable (£151) 1746  
 Cluckston, Samuel, of Norwalk, 1740  
 Collins, Henry & Rivera, Jacob Rods., Mercts at Newport, 1758  
 Cordova, Jacob de, 1761  
 Cordova, Moses de & Castro, Daniel Mendes de, 1743  
 Cornual, Thos., of Hamsted, 1750  
 Correa, Mordy, Alueres, of Curoco, 1741  
 Costa, Isaac Haim Rod. Da, of Curoco, 1751  
 Costa, Moses Nunez Da, Jamaica, 1750  
 Costa, Da, & Farr, Merchts at South Carolina, 1759  
 Cotinho, Moses Henriques, 1744  
 Cramolie [Cromelien], Daniel, of Amsterdam, (£1069), 1752  
 Crastro, Daniel De, 1740  
 de Peyster, John, 1740  
 de Peyster, John, of Albaney, 1747  
 Doneldson, Jos., of New Rochel, 1745  
 Eadding, Asher, & Ralph, his brother in law, 1741  
 Earnest, Matthias, 1740  
 Eayres, Isaac, 1741  
 Etting (Edding, Heatting), Asher, 1749  
 Ferro, Benjamin Vas, of Curoco, 1742  
 Fisher, Elena, of Albany, 1742  
 fitzRandel, Nethanel, of Princes Town, 1751  
 Flamengo, Jacob Nunes, Mercht in Jamaica, 1762  
 Franklin, Thomas, 1741  
 Franklin, Walter & Thomas, 1754  
 Furtado, Isaac Henriques, 1752

Gail, Samuel, of Goshen, 1749

Gay, Samuel, of Goshen, 1741

Gibson, Hew, of East Huntington, 1741

Goldsmith, Benjm., "a Jew pedlor—March 21: To Sundry merchandise on short credit £40.15.10"—(nothing on credit side) 1750

Golet, Philip, the W. of, 1748

Gollett, W. Cathrin, 1750

Gomes, Miguel, Mercht at Madera, 1751

Gomez, Abm., Moses, Estter & Rachel (account mentioning bonds of George Petterson & John Van Cortland) 1752

Gomez, Isaac, Brother, 1752

Gomez, Isaac, Jr., "my nephew," 1749

Gomez, Isaac & Benjamin, of Barbados, 1744

Gomez, Moses, "My son", 1746

Gomez, Moses & Isaac, 1741

Gonsales, Jacob & Louzada, Merchts in London (£1045), 1749

Hamburgh, Voyage to, 1746

Hardinbrook, Abm., 1746

Harris, George, of New Wourck, 1747

Harris, Philip, of Sunsberey, 1741

Hart, Abm., 1741

Hart, Jacob, 1740

Hart, Capt. Jacob De, 1744

Hart, Naphtaly & Samuel, 1739

Hayes, Solomon (£347), 1741

Hays, David, 1742

Hazard, Nathaniel, 1741

Hazard, Samuel, 1741

Hendricks, Uriah, married to Easter, dater of Mordy Gomez, dec., 1765

Henriques, Mordy & David, of Curoco, 1753

Henriques, Esther Nunez ("to a tombstone & carting to ye burying ground"), 1741

Henriques, Isaac Nunes, 1744

Henriques, Joshua, Jr., of Curoco, 1749

Henriques, Yeoshuah, of Curoco, 1743

Heywood, James, 1740

Holemes, Reuben, of Ulster Co., 1752

Isaac, Jacob, 1741

Isaac, Philip, of Westchester, 1742

Isaacs, Joshua, 1740



Israel, Mrs., 1744  
Jacobs, Ralph, 1741  
Jacobus, David, of Kinderhook, 1760  
Jacobus, Philip, of Rinebeack, 1760  
Jessurun, Moses Benjamin, of Curoco, 1743  
Johnston, James, of Allentown, 1741  
Johnston, Samuel, of Beth-El on Raritan, 1748  
Judah, Jacob, 1742  
Judah, Michel, of Norwalk, 1746  
Keteltas, Abm. & Petter, 1752  
Kingston, Jamaica, Kahal Kados of, 1761  
Kip, Isaac, Duches Co., 1743  
Kip, Rochd., Coupper, 1753  
Lane, Samuel, of Rey, 1741  
Latush, Isaac, 1764  
Lawrence, Anna & Wm., 1740  
Legorne, Voyage to, 1746  
Lemmeretts, Abraham, 1740  
Leon, Benjamin Marache De, 1746  
Leon, Mos. Rod. De, 1764  
Levy, Abm., of Curoco, 1753  
Levy, Haim, 1758  
Levy, Moses, 1741  
Levy, Samuel, 1747  
Levy & Franks, of Philadelphia, 1748  
Levy & Lyon, of Albaney, 1758  
Livingstone, Robert, Jr., 1744  
London, Voyage to, 1746  
Lopez, Abraham, of New Port, 1774  
Lopez, Aron, 1752  
Lopez, Moses, Mercht in New Port, 1761  
Louzada, W<sup>o</sup> Hana, 1750  
Lowyor, Johannes, of Schorey, 1741  
Loyon, Abm. de, of Lancaster, 1749  
Lucena, Samuel De, 1760  
Ludlow, Wm., 1741  
Lyon, Abm. de ("gone to Canastoga"—£173), 1743  
Lyon, Moses De, 1753  
Machado, Sipora, 1750  
Maduro, Isaac Levy (Curoco), 1744  
Marache, Estter, 1746  
Marchena, Abraham de, of Curoco, 1741

- Marchena, Abm. & Isaac, Merchts of Curoco, 1760  
 Marrero, Marcelina, 1759  
 Marshalk, François, 1741  
 Marshlak, John, 1741  
 Mattos, Ben Orobias de, 1744  
 Mears, Judah, 1746  
 Mendes, Mr. Isaac, "Voyage to Albaney Consigned to, on my Acct". "Now at Albaney." (On Credit Side, "note on Samuel de Lucena taken as cash"), 1756  
 Mendez, Isaac Pereyra, 1752  
 Mendez, Jacob Pereyra, 1744  
 Merry, John, of East Huntington, 1741  
 Mickve Israel de Curacao, La Santa Sedaca de, 1758  
 Millor, Ludwick, "my Tenant", 1742  
 Mines, Charles, 1753  
 Miranda, Elian & Isaac Rod., Merchts at Curoco, 1765  
 Monsantto, Abm. Israel & Sasporttas, Abm Israel, of Curoco, 1742  
 Morris, Elena, & Dekey, Eliz., 1741  
 Moses, Barnett, 1743  
 Moses, Levy, & Benjm., Dorres, 1760  
 Motta, Abm. & Aron of Curoco, 1742  
 Myers, Andrew A., 1750  
 Naar, Jacob de Joshua, of Curoco, "my brother in law", 1745  
 Newbold, John, of Sinepuxon in Maryland, 1741  
 Newport en Rodisland, La Santa Sedaca De (On credit side—"Received from K. K. de Curaçao") 1756  
 Neyra, Joseph Attias de, of Curoco, 1741  
 Olivera, Henriques Vas De, of Amsterdam, 1747  
 Pacheco, Rodrigo, 1741  
 Pacheco & Tavares, Merchts in London, 1749  
 Palasios, Jos. De., 1759  
 Parara, Mordy, of Curoco, 1741  
 Parker, Ursilia, of Amboy, 1746  
 Parrara, Jacob de Mordy, 1748  
 Penso, Moses, Mercht at Curoco, 1755  
 Pereyra, Jacob, of Elian, 1742  
 Phanix, Alexander, 1740  
 Pinedo, Gabriel, 1753  
 Pinedo, Jacob, of Curoco, 1747  
 Pinto, Abraham, of Horse Neck, 1742  
 Pinto, Isaac, now at Norwalk—now at Strattsburg—1741  
 Pinto, Jacob & Solomon, 1760

Provost, David Wm., 1742  
Quixano, Abm. Henriques, of Jamaica, 1743  
Ramos, Moses Lopez, 1742  
Ranallo, Emanuel, 1766  
Rivera, Jacob Rod., of New Port, 1767  
Rodrick, Isaac de, Merchant at Madeira, 1743  
Rodrigues, Isaac Rephael & Silva, Jacob de, of Jamaica, 1747  
Rosebom, John, of Albaney, 1740  
Rudgers, Peter, 1741  
Ruetgers, W<sup>o</sup> Helena, 1751  
Saco, Sara & Abm., of Curoco, 1743  
Samuel, Levy, & Lipmon, Lyon, 1741  
Sanabria, Diego & Marrero, Marselina, 1759  
Sanders, Robt., Esq., of Albaney, 1756  
Scank, Abm., of Bushwick, 1748.  
Schyler, Eliza, 1741  
Schyler, Mindert, the Painter, 1741  
Sears, Isaac, & Drake, Jasper, 1759  
Seherit Israel, the Holley Congregation, 1751  
Sexas, Isaac Mendez, 1751  
Simonds, Samuel, of Long Island, 1741  
Smith, Arthur, of Ulster Co., 1755  
Smith, Nethanel, of Mareches, 1741  
Solomons, Joseph, of Lancaster, 1744  
Stratton, Elipalet, of East Hampton, 1751  
Stuart, Math., Merchant in New London, 1746  
Sudam, John, Bucher, 1750  
Tenbrook, Cornelis, of Albaney, 1741  
Tenedo, Abm of Curoco, 1742  
Tobias, Joseph, Mercht in Charles Town, S. C., 1758  
Torres, Simha de, 1744  
Tourow, Lea, of Curoco, 1742  
Vallenbergh, Abm of Kinderhook, 1759  
Valuerde, Jacob, of Barbados, 1741  
Van Cortland, Steven, 1753  
Van Eass, Hendrik, 1741  
Van Hook, Aaron, 1741  
Van Ordem John, 1741  
Van Schaack, Cornelius, 1742  
Van Wyck, Abraham, 1741  
Van Wyck, Theodorus, 1741  
Veail, John, of Oysterbay, 1746

Walls, Gamalliel, Mercht of Boston (£1035), 1748

Webb, Joseph, Sr., of Standford, 1749

White, Wm., Mercht of Dublin, 1752

Willet, Abm., 1753

Willet, Isaac, Esq., Sheriff of West Chester (£155), 1755

Willet, Thos., Willet, John, Blagge, Benjm., & Griffeth, Root, Jr.,  
(£588), 1752

Willett, John, of Flushing, 1741

1770 The Holley Congregation of Hebron <sup>1</sup>

Dr.

Oct. 3 To an order on David Ximenes by myself & son £33. 9

Cr.

Oct. 3 By monies geathrd fro this Congregn £32. 1. 6

Do from Road Island 25.12

Nov. 20 By Dittos recvd from Phila 13.10

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<sup>1</sup>[Hayman Levy in 1763 was appointed treasurer to collect money for the Jews in Hebron, and was probably succeeded by Daniel Gomez, which accounts for the presence of these items in the latter's ledger.]

## PART II.

### FROM THE NOTE BOOKS OF REV. J. J. LYONS TRANSCRIBED FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

#### ITEMS RELATING TO CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL, NEW YORK.

Before the erection of the Synagogue in Mill Street in 1729, . . . . prayers were read in a frame building in Mill Street in the first ward about one hundred feet east of the lot occupied in 1729. . . . [See Albion Morris Dyer, *Publications*, No. 8, pp. 38-41.]

1817, Aug. 11, Beginning of taking down old Snoga to build new one in Mill St.

1818, April 17, Consecration.

1<sup>st</sup> introduction of Gas light in Synagogue in Crosby St. Old Chandeliers lent to Congn in Cincinnati.

This Synagogue was taken down, rebuilt on the same site in 5577=1817 and consecrated on the eve of *Sabbath Hagadol* \* 5578 (Friday evening, April 17, 1818); the congregation in the interim worshipped in a large room in an engine house in Beaver Street a few doors west of Broad Street. Mill Street widened 1835.

During the prevalence of the yellow fever of 1822 service was performed in a school house Corner of Henry Street and Oliver Street.

In the spring of 1833 the property in Mill & Beaver Streets was sold, but the materials of the old Synagogue having been reserved by the Trustees were as far as possible used in the erection of the new place of worship in Crosby Street between Broome and Spring Streets, on the westerly side of the way. Last Sabbath service in Mill St.

The Synagogue in Crosby Street was consecrated on the eve of *Pentecost* \* 5594 (Thursday, June 12, 1834). . . . The prop-

erty in Crosby Street was sold in 1859 and the last service in that locality was on February 4, 1860. The Congregation worshipped temporarily from the above date to Septbr 12<sup>th</sup> the same year in a large room, Broadway near 19<sup>th</sup> Street. The Corner Stone of the Synagogue in West 19<sup>th</sup> Street near 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue was laid with appropriate ceremony on Monday, Tamuz 9, 5619, July 11, 1859. The Consecration was on Wednesday afternoon, 5620 Eloul 25, 1860, Septbr. 12. The first Sabbath worship was on Eloul 28=Sept. 15. . . .

[B. V, pp. 292-94]

Copy of a receipted bill of Rev. Gershom Seixas against K. K. Shearith Israel—during the period of the Revolution furnished by S. Abrahams, M. D., showing, among other items, the expense incurred by him in 1776, in removing the Scrolls and other Synagogue property to Stratford, Conn.; and again, in 1780, for transporting them from Stratford to Philadelphia at the request of Hayman Levy and Isaac Moses. [See N. Taylor Phillips, *Publications*, No. 4, pp. 205-206.]

[B. I, No. 90]

Revd. Isaac Touro officiated also in New York alternately with Rev. Mr. Cohen during the Revolutionary War whilst Gershom Seixas with many of his Congregation was in Philadelphia. Revd. Isaac Touro died on Thursday, January 8th, 1784, Tebet 14, 5544.<sup>1</sup>

[B. V, p. 289]

SUBSTANCE OF MEMORANDUM AS TO HEBRA GEMILUT HASADIM MADE  
BY REV. J. J. LYONS.

This is probably the first charitable society in the Congregation. Its earliest extant book is marked "Accounts #2," and relates to receipts and expenditures between 1786 and 1790. This contains references to an earlier book. This society was probably founded much earlier and later disbanded for a time.

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<sup>1</sup> [In Kingston, Jamaica, West Indies.]

Originally it probably had four managers as appears from an item: "1788 July 25. By Cash paid Solomon Nettling by order of *Arba Anashim* \* [four managers] £2.0.0."

The names of the Treasurers are: 1786, Abraham Isaacs; 1787, Isaac Levy; 1789, Benjamin Jacobs; 1790, Jacob Hart.

The name of the Shamas in 1790 was Joseph Nathan.

The following names of members appear:

Abm. I. Abrahams	Abraham Isaacs	Abraham Myers
Isaac A. Abrahams	Joshua [Isaacs?]	Benjamin Myers
Isaac [Abrahams?]	Samuel Israel	Joseph M. Myers
Isaac N. Cardozo	Moses [Israel?]	Myer Myers
Levy Cohen	Benjamin Jacobs	Joseph Nathan
Solomon Myers Cohen	Joseph Jacobs	Moses D. Nathan
Josiah Ellis	Samuel Jacobs	Solomon Nettling
Emanuel Gates	Lyon Jonas	Manuel Noah
Abraham Gomez	Moses Lazarus	Benjamin Nones
Isaac Gomez	Samuel Lazarus	Solomon Odler
Moses Gomez, Jr.	Hayman Levy	Jacob Phillips
Moses D. Gomez	Isaac H. Levy	Joseph Pinto
Elias Hart	Solomon Lyon	Myer Regensburg
Ephraim Hart	Henry Marks	Haym Salomon
Jacob Hart	Joseph Michaels	Solomon Simons
Lyon Hart	Isaac Michaels	Solomon Simson
Judah Hays	Jacob Mordecai	A. A. Van Ottingen
Michael S. Hays	Isaac Moses	Alexander Zuntz
Samuel Hays		

The sources of revenue were:

Initiation fee from new members payable in monthly instalments of 4 shillings	£1.17. 4
Monthly Subscription	0. 2. 0
Annual Tax to defray Exp* of Festival	0. 1. 6
Fine for non-attendance at <i>Minyan</i> * during seven days of mourning and at <i>Jahrzeit</i> morning	0. 1. 0
afternoon	0. 0. 6
Fine for not sitting up with the Sick when summoned, each time	0. 8. 0
Fine for absence from general meeting	0. 1. 0
Fine for insulting Gabay (one instance on record of Moses Gomez probably on trial thus condemned)	0. 1. 0

There were many free will offerings in synagogue on different occasions.

Although partaking of the nature of a Mutual Benefit Society, the Hebra did not restrict its usefulness solely to its members; its object was a general charity. It relieved the needy by donations in money and fuel, and when sick, it provided them with proper medical assistance. It superintended all funerals in accordance with our established rites and customs. It extended religious consolation to the mourner and greatly contributed toward the maintenance of brotherly love and kindly feelings in the community.

A benefit of £1.4.0 was given to every member in *Abelot* \* (mourning) called "Abel money" whilst in sickness he was entitled to the attendance of his fellow members to assist in nursing, and in mourning to complete *Minyan* \* for prayers.

As instances of its active benevolence two items from the account-book will suffice, viz.

p. 33 1788 March 19 Mrs. Myers for 17 weeks boarding	
of Mr. Nettling	£8.10. 0
p. 61 1789 Doctor Cogsdal Receipt for attending	
the sick	£7.10. 0

The Hebra owned a hearse as well as the tools and implements used in the *Bet Haim* \* such as the bier, spades, shovels, picks. It paid at the rate of 3 Shillings per quarter rent for a piece of ground in the Cemetery, whereon in 1789 a shed was built at the cost of £0.18.3 for the keeping of these utensils.

The annual account of 1787 shows a surplus of £50 which was ordered to be put out on interest and in 1789 the Exps of the Society amounted to £92.4.0.

Of its property nothing remains except a copper vase or fountain (as it was called in olden times) used on the Beth Haim for the washing of hands after interment, and also two brass candlesticks, now in keeping of the Hebra Hased Va-Amet and still devoted to their original purpose at the hour of death and in the Synagogue on the evening of Tishabeab.

On the fountain is engraved: *Society Gemilut Hasadim* 5549 \* [1789].



The candlesticks were presented by Mr. Isaac Moses and are inscribed: *This Candlestick Mr. Isaac Moses presented for the use of the holy Hebrah Gemilut Hasadim in New York in the Year 5547 \* [1787].*

The lettering on the fountain and candlesticks was done by Mr. Myer Myers as it appears page 5 on Credit Side of his acc<sup>ts</sup> for 1787 "By your bill for engraving Candlesticks £0.16. 0" and on page 39 in 1789, "For engraving the fountain £0. 2. 0."

This Society probably ceased to exist before 1802 as in that year necessity called for the organization of the *Hebra Hased Va-Amet*,\* a Society for visiting the sick, attendance at funerals and at the house of mourning, and to provide assistance for the needy which was formerly done by the then obsolete *Hebra Gemilut Hasadim*.\* About the same time was established the Society *Mattan Basether* \*<sup>1</sup> for, according to a printed circular, the rules and regulations of the latter were ordered revised and amended in 1805.

[B. I, No. 6]

On the old Copper vase at the *Beth Haim* \* still in use for washing hands, the following is inscribed: *Hebra Gemiluth Hasadim 5549,\** common era 1789. This *Hebra* \* was for the purpose of attending to the sick and dying. There are two Brass Candlesticks formerly the property of the above *Hebra* \* now in possession of *Hebra Hased Va-Amet* \* bearing the same inscription.

[B. V, p. 314]

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNT BY REV. J. J. LYONS CONCERNING THE  
"SOCIETY MATTAN BASETHER." \*

The Society was founded about 1799, and is mentioned in a discourse delivered in the Synagogue by Rev. G. Seixas on

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<sup>1</sup> [Literally, "Gift in Secret." This society collected charitable contributions, the names of donors in all cases remaining anonymous.]

Dec. 20th, 1805, in aid of the funds of this Society, a manuscript copy of which is in my possession. This states that the Society had been founded about six years previously

when few of our brethren resided in this city and many of those fell victims to the direful epidemic.<sup>1</sup> Some others felt the malignant influence of the disease but through the goodness of Providence are enabled to attend us this day. At that time our contributions were small, still they were found to be of great service to our distressed friends; many have been benefitted since in proportion to the insufficiency of the fund, which could not extend in a more ample manner to supply all who stand in need of assistance at this dreary season of the year. Much will depend on the offerings of this day and it is to be hoped that every man will be recompensed according to the goodness of his works.

Two days after this sermon was delivered a committee was appointed to revise the laws of the Society. This committee consisted of Jacques Ruden, Aaron Levy and M. Myers, and the following is taken from its printed report:

We beg to lay before you an enlarged plan of Charity. Your active zeal, which have been evinced on so many occasions, where Charity was the leading object, warrants us in a fond hope that the following will at least claim your serious Consideration. Your Charities heretofore have been considerable, but applied in such manner, as to have been productive of a limited effect, and that only for the present time.

In an increasing Congregation like ours, considering the local situation, it is time, that the foundation of a permanent charitable institution should be laid, as well for the benefit of posterity as ourselves. We are inhabitants of a populous city, nearly in the centre of the United States; its commerce extended to all parts of the globe; the principles of our government, the equal rights we enjoy, the friendly disposition of the people of this State, the commercial advantages of our city over most others, the enterprising and commercial spirit of our nation; are all powerful reasons that this City in the course of time will contain the largest Congregation in the New World. If this reasoning be correct, if you admit the probability of such an increase of members, will you hesitate to admit also that it is time the foundation of a great and charitable institution should be laid, which will natur-

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<sup>1</sup> [Yellow fever.]

ally progress with the increase of the Congregation, and be an honor to every member of it?

If it be made to appear that you could lay the foundation of a Poor House and Hospital, forward the same, and become incorporated without any great exertion, where then can any possible objection arise to such a plan?

All this can be commenced from nothing, supported with little, and without injuring the circumstances of any, rendering all respectable, and in time relieving you from the heavy burthen you now bear—With these views, your committee submit the following outlines of a Constitution.

Here follow the various articles, providing among other things, for annual membership contributions of \$3.25, and for subscriptions in order to raise a fund for establishing a Poor House and Hospital.

[B. I, No. 7]

From an old Bible of Mr. Isaac Gomez lent me by Mrs. Mordecai Solomons, his granddaughter.

1817, Monday Aug<sup>t</sup> 11. This day the Trustees began to have the Snoga or Synagogue taken down in order to build a new one which is to be larger.

1818, April 17. This day being Friday the New Snoga was Consecrated. Long may it stand & be used for the purpose intended. It has been building 8 months and six days from the Commencement to the dedication. The performance was truly elegant & solemn; the singing was thought fine. Major M. M. Noah delivered an English address, which was universally admired. A number of appropriate Psalms were chosen for the occasion.

[B. V, p. 266]

*Synagogue*

*Of the K. K. Shearith Israel. Built in the year 5490 [1730.]*

*And rebuilt in the year 5577.\* [1817.]*<sup>1</sup>

The foregoing is copy of inscription that was in front of the Second Mill Street Synagogue. It was engraved on a tablet of

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<sup>1</sup> [The date is indicated by a chronogram on the Biblical quotation "The cry of the poor Thou wilt heed."]

brownstone with gilt letters. When the Congregation removed from Mill Street, this stone was put in the southwest corner of the basement wall of the Synagogue in Crosby Street. I copied the inscription myself, before the removal from Crosby Street. Long before this event, the inscription had become nearly illegible as the stone had commenced to peel from exposure to wind and weather.

[B. V, pp. 285-86]

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Sketch of Plan of Synagogue Premises and House of Hazan, Crosby Street.

[B. V, p. 267]

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5593 Nissan 24, 1833 April 13. Last Sabbath Service in Mill Street Synagogue previous to its being pulled down by Mr. Dickie the purchaser.

The following is a list of the persons to whom the Mitsvote were assigned by M. B. Seixas: H. M. Solomons; Soln. Seixas; Hillel Seixas; Ben. S. Seixas; Naph. Phillips; Dav. H. Valentine; Saml. A. Cohen; Mord. Freind; Jos. L. Hays; Dav. Moses; G. Posnanski; Rev. Is. B. Seixas.

Copied from the Mitsvah Book kept by Rev. I. B. Seixas, 5593: 5593 Iyar 15 (1833, May 4) First Sabbath in Temporary Synagogue over the Dispensary in White Street, Corner of Centre Street (for two Sabbaths it appears there was no public worship). The Mitsvote were assigned as follows: Joshua Moses; Soln. Seixas; Hillel M. Seixas; Jonas N. Phillips; Aaron Levy; Cary Judah; Judah Asher Cohen; Moses B. Seixas; Isaac Soria; Dr. J. De la Motta; Aaron Judah; Naph. Phillips; Moses L. Moses; Theo. J. Seixas.

[B. V, pp. 268-69]

5594 Iyar 15 (1834, May 24) Last Sabbath in Temporary Synagogue over the dispensary in White Street Corner of Centre Street. The Mitsvote were assigned as follows: Dav.

Phillips; Soln. Seixas; Ben. I. Seixas; Dav. Solomons; Naph. Phillips; Soln. Hendricks; Gershom Cohen; Nahum Freind; Ben. Seixas; Mitchel Hart; Isaac Isaacs; M. B. Seixas; M. L. Moses; G. I. Seixas; Is. B. Seixas.

The Synagogue in Crosby Street was consecrated on the eve of Shebuoth June 12. From Sabbath *Behar* \* it appears there was no public service until the eve of *Shebuoth*.\*

[B. V, p. 270]

[The following is written on a slip of paper pasted in the book:]

Inscription on a marble Stone over the *Sham door* of the Crosby Street Synagogue:

*Beth El of K. K. Shearith Israel built in the year 5594\* [1834].  
Happy the man who hearkeneth to me to watch by my doors  
every day.\**

[B. V, p. 266]

Exterior view of Synagogue in Crosby Street with adjoining Houses Sketched by Mr. — Moore the Architect.

[The building is a low simple one of the Greek type.] [B. V, p. 266A]

Interior View of the Synagogue in Crosby Street, showing the Hechal, Ark with the Perpetual Lamp and a few rows of seats. Sketched by Mr. Moore the Architect of the Synagogue West 19th St. previous to the removal from Crosby St. and photographed by Gardner, Corner W. 19th St. & 6 Avenue.

[B. V, p. 266B]

1835, Septbr. 10. From Minutes of Trustees of K. K. S. I., New York. 5 Brass Chandeliers sent to Messrs. Joseph Jonas, Elias Mayer & Phineas Moses in Cincinnati, Ohio, to be used in their Synagogue and to be returned when no longer in use.

[B. V, p. 285]

Consecration of Synagogue West 19<sup>th</sup> Street, N. Y., from *The Occident*, Vol. XVIII, p. 162, Tishree 11, 5621 (Sept. 27,

1860). The article is headed by a note of the Editor Rev. I. Leeser of Philadelphia, as follows:

We copy the following from the *Sabbath Recorder*, chiefly because of the introductory remark, that the day on which the opening took place, was the 260<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the landing of the first Jewish settlers in this country. Is not this a glaring mistake? or should sixth be read for sixtieth? Since we hardly think that any of our people were settled in America earlier than 1654 which we regard about the right date.<sup>1</sup>

Fourth day, September 12<sup>th</sup>, was the 260th anniversary of the landing of the first Jewish settlers in this country. The day was used in New York for the consecration of a new Synagogue, considered the most elegant structure of the kind in the country. It is located in 19<sup>th</sup> Street, is owned by the Portuguese who formerly worshipped in Crosby Street and cost about \$100,000. The Congregation owning the Synagogue known as the "Gates of Israel" (Error—Shearith Israel, Remnant of Israel) <sup>2</sup> is the oldest and wealthiest Congregation in New York. Their records in Spanish date back as far as 1728, and they worshipped up to 1729 in a frame building on Mill Street, when the first Synagogue was built near that location. In 1817 this building was torn down and a new one constructed on its site; but in 1833, this had to give way to the uptown tendency, and the building was again torn down, and its materials partially used in the building of the Crosby Street edifice, which was consecrated in 1834, and which has just been vacated for the more spacious and elegant structure on Nineteenth Street. The Crosby Street Synagogue, with the site, originally cost \$45,000, and the lot and building have now been sold for \$58,000 although the structure is worth nothing more than the price of the old building material. The Congregation numbers some 400 families. The dedication services were attended by a large number of Christians, including several Ministers. Admission was secured by tickets and the services commenced at 5 o'clock in the afternoon. To begin, four of the members held up

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<sup>1</sup> [Mr. Leeser evidently refers to the original thirteen colonies, as Jews were undoubtedly settled in other parts of America, both North and South, long before 1654, *e. g.*, Mexico, etc.]

<sup>2</sup> [The name of the Congregation is Shearith Israel. The error referred to was probably due to a misreading of Shaarai, *i. e.*, Gates, for Shearith, *i. e.*, Remnant.]

a crimson Canopy near the door at which a knocking was heard. It was the demand of the Minister for entrance. The doors were opened by Mr. Naphtali Phillips, who is the oldest Jew born in New York now alive, being 87 years of age. The minister, Rev. J. J. Lyons, upon entering the Synagogue, chanted the words of which the following is the translation, "Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter them and praise the Lord." The Choir responded. The Minister stood beneath the canopy and chanted another verse. He then proceeded to the front of the desk followed by the oldest members, bearing in their arms the scroll of the Law. Then the perpetual lamp which hangs at the ark was lighted<sup>1</sup> whilst the minister sang and the Choir responded, after which seven circuits of the Synagogue were made by the minister and procession, when the scrolls of the Law were finally deposited in their resting place, the Ark; at the conclusion of which, the Reverend Doctor Fischell delivered a discourse, which was appropriate to the occasion, and traced the decline of great empires side by side with the progress of the Jews, notwithstanding their persecution in all lands and ages. After the usual prayer for the government, Rev. Mr. Lyons delivered the Consecration prayer in English and the services concluded at a little before seven o'clock with the singing of the Hallelujah. The singing of the Choir<sup>2</sup> 118 voices<sup>3</sup> in all, was very fine, and much admired by judges of sacred music. It included several of the members of the Italian opera. The instrumental part consisted of 18 performers.<sup>4</sup>

[B. V, facing p. 306]

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<sup>1</sup> By Mr. Lewis I. Cohen.

<sup>2</sup> Led by Mr. Moranda.

<sup>3</sup> 118 voices rather extravagant in the estimate, probably 30 voices in all.

<sup>4</sup> Only 3 professional singers, young ladies of the Jewish persuasion.

ITEMS RELATING TO THE HAZANIM OF CONGREGATION  
SHEARITH ISRAEL, NEW YORK.

NAMES OF THE HAZANIM OF CONGN. SHEARITH ISRAEL.<sup>1</sup>

**Rev. Abraham De Lucena** was *Hazan* \* in 1710; the time of his appointment is not known. 1713 June 3, Owner in part of a Sloop. 1716 March 1, Engaged in business.

**Rev. Moses Lopez da Fonseca.** He left for Curaçao in 5496, [1736].

**Rev. David Mendes Machado.** Died Tebet 2<sup>nd</sup> 5507 [Dec. 15, 1746].<sup>2</sup> “Machados etait un des favoris du Roi Guillaume et ce monarque reconnoissoit qu’il avait rendu de grands services a ses armees en flandres.” From “*Essai Historique Surinam*,” Introduction, p. xxix.

[It is doubtful whether the above referred to the family of the Hazan, as the name is quite common in the Iberian Peninsula.]

**Rev. Benjamin Pereira.** Resigned from ill health in 5517 [1757].

**Rev. De Silva** pro tem.

**Rev. Joseph Jessurun Pinto** left for London 5526 [1766].

**Rev. Isaac Cohen de Silva** served to 5528 [1768].

**Rev. Gershom Mendes Seixas.** Born January 14<sup>th</sup>, 1745. Died in office Tamuz 5576, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1816.

Dr. Mitchell engaged with Rev. G. M. S. in exegetical disquisitions of Kennicots Hebrew Bible.

Copied from a small green covered Book 1<sup>st</sup> page previous to the Title page viz.

Livro de Miseberagh, Ascaboth & Diversas outras Ceremonias que se uzao no Kahal Kados de *Shearith Israel* \* de New York que

<sup>1</sup> [Cf. *Publications*, No. 21, pp. 208-210.]

<sup>2</sup> [This date seems erroneous, as the Record Book of the Congregation gives the date as 2 Tebet 5508, Dec. 4, 1747.]



Deos augmente. Posto Em Ordem pello Hazan desta Kehila, no anno de sua Entrada foy a anno 5519 [1759] Hn Jos Jesurun Pinto. Em Domingo de Tamus 5528 en Junta de Sh. foy Gershom Mendes Seixas Eleito Hazan sem voto contrarisem im Lugar de Isaac Cohen Da Silva, Coresponde a Julho 3<sup>a</sup> 1768.

A Sermon preached on Sunday, 11 *Tammuz 5576*,\* July 7 1816, on occasion of the death of Rev. Mr. Gershom Seixas, Pastor of the Hebrew Congregation at New York who departed this life, 6 *Tammuz 5576*,\*<sup>1</sup> July 2, 1816, in the Seventy-first year of his age and the fiftieth of his ministry.

“Faithful found

Among the faithless, faithful only he;  
Among innumerable false, unmoved,  
Unshaken, unseduced, unterrified,  
His loyalty he kept, his love, his zeal;  
Nor number, nor example, with him wrought  
To swerve from truth, or change his constant mind,  
Though single.” *Paradise Lost*, l. 896.

By the Rev. E. N. Carvalho, Minister of the Congregation *Mikve Israel*\* in Philadelphia. Printed for the Author by William Fry. 1816.

An Eulogium to the memory of the Rev. Gershom Mendes Seixas, pronounced in the Synagogue in the city of New York on Saturday the 13<sup>th</sup> July, 1816, at the request of the Trustees of the Congregation Shearith Israel. By Naphtali Phillips, President of the Congregation. New York. Printed by J. H. Sherman, No. 10 Broad Street, 1816.

Funeral address pronounced in the Synagogue previous to the interment of relics of the Rev. Gershom Mendes Seixas (late Minister to the Hebrew Congregation) who resigned his soul into the hands of his God, July 2, 1816, by Jacob De La Motta, M. D. New York. Printed for the Author, 1816.

[See Leon Huhner, “The Patriot Jewish Minister of the American Revolution,” *Jewish Comment*, January 10, 1902. Also N. Taylor Phillips in *American Jewish Year Book*, 1904-5.]

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<sup>1</sup> [The date is indicated by a chronogram on the verse “And Elijah went to heaven in a whirlwind.”]

**Mr. Eleazer S. Lazarus** and **Mr. Moses L. M. Peixotto**, members of the Cong<sup>n</sup>. officiated alternately and gratuitously from 1816 to 1820.

**Rev. Moses L. M. Peixotto.** Family Registry, Record Book, Vol. 1, p. 66. Born Curaçao February 11, 1767; arrived with his family in New York, June 11, 1807; was 1st Merchant before Hazan. 1767, Septbr. 20, Born Judith Lopez Salzedo, 2nd wife of Rev. M. L. M. Peixotto in Amsterdam. They were married in Amsterdam on April 19, 1797.

Children by his first wife:

Leah: born in Curaçao, married Jb. Jessurun of Curaçao.  
Saml: born in Curaçao, married Maria Gomez of N. Y.

Children by his second wife:

Daniel: born in Amsterdam, married in N. Y. Rachel Seixas.  
Raphael: " " Curaçao, married Luna.  
Sarah " " " , married Benjn Naar.  
Grace " " "

Five different Masonic Certificates:

1. Mr. P. became a Master Mason in Curaçao in Lodge Virgenoeing when 41 years of age, 11 of Ab 1807.
2. Further Degrees in N. Y., 1808 24 October, aged 42 years.
3. Appointment of Grand Treasurer of the Sublime Grand Consistory [Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite] for 3 years.
4. Appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge at the Spanish Main and in all the West Indies.
5. Initiated by Emanuel De La Motta of Charleston, S. C., in the 33d Degree.<sup>1</sup>

In Directory of 1811-12, he resides 221 Bowery,—Merchant.  
[B. V, pp. 295-298]

Revd. M. L. M. Peixotto

Seal. Two oval circles 3 fishes in one, and in the other a hand pouring water out of a pitcher in a bowl. A crown topping the two oval circles, and the whole surrounded by a wreath

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<sup>1</sup> [For further reference to Peixotto's Masonic activities, see Samuel Oppenheim, *Publications*, No. 19, pp. 33, 37, 38.]

with the inscription "Mos. Levy Maduro Peixotto." The seal is of the ordinary old fashion kind used by hand, the holder made of ivory, and is the property of the grandson of the *Hazan*,\* Moses L. M. Peixotto, his namesake, oldest son of Dr. Daniel L. M. Peixotto. . . .

[B. IV, p. 102]

**Rev. Isaac B. Seizas.** Elected Aug. 3, 1828. Died Eloul 1, 1839.

**Rev. Jacques J. Lyons** arrived U. S., 1837.

[B. V, p. 299]

ITEMS RELATING TO CEMETERIES OF CONGREGATION  
SHEARITH ISRAEL, NEW YORK.

LOCATION OF THE BURIAL GROUNDS BELONGING TO CONG<sup>N</sup> SHEARITH  
ISRAEL.

1655, July 27. Petition of de Lucena for Jewish Burying Ground. Vol. VI, p. 68, Dutch MS. at Albany.

1656, Febry 22. Burying place outside the city, Vol. VI, p. 285, Dutch MS. at Albany. When I read the above item to Mr. Naphtali Phillips a few years before his death he said, it consisted of two tufts of ground near Fresh Water Pond in the vicinity of Hague St., I think however, he was thinking of a piece of ground subsequently purchased by the Congn. of which mention is made in the Minute Book of the Congn., Vol. 1.

"Old Hebrew Burying Ground." The first Beth Haim where it is positively known interments have been made was on the corner of Madison and Oliver Street and stood on a high hill.

Interment in this Beth Haim prohibited by the Common Council under penalty of \$250 for each burial.

Some of the property sold and entrance made in Oliver Street facing Henry Street.

Hill Lowered, ground levelled. Disinterment and reinterment of many bodies. Nov. 6, 1820, meeting to consider the sale of property.

Ordinance of Common Council to extend the Bowery, a large piece of ground taken by the Corporation which made the *Beth Haim* \* front on the New Bowery. Disinterment of the bodies and their reinterment in *Beth Haim* \* 21st St. under supervision of Rev. Ellis Lyons. See Trustees' Minutes & Congregation Record Book, Vol. 11. [See also Rosalie S. Phillips, *Publications*, No. 18, p. 120.]

Portion of ground facing Oliver Street with former *Metaher* \* house sold.

Claim of Mrs. Abigail Gomez for dowry decided by the Court in favor of the Congregation. [See *Tradesmen's Bank v. Gomez*, 4 Sandford's Reports.]

In digging for a foundation for a house on an adjoining lot some bones were gathered and reinterred in *Beth Haim* \* 21st St.

Letter of Trustees to Moses Gomez with Resolution on the subject of the repairs of the wall of *Beth Haim*.\*

August 23, 1728. Petition for additional burial ground recites that "they desired to purchase land adjoining the old burial ground but being in dispute they could not have a title to the same."

*Note.* It appears to me that the difficulty of the title must have been remedied, and the adjoining land to the old *Beth Haim* eventually secured, many tombstones having been found in the Chatham Street Burial Place with dates anterior to 1728.

This petition also sets forth the fact that they "were obliged to purchase 2 lots of land lying near the Cripple Bush or Swamp being the numbers 84 and 85 which contain 50 foot in breath and 112 feet in length."

*Note.* This property must have been located in Gold Street. See description of the Beekmans farm or pasture with map showing the location of Lots 84 & 85 in this book [Lyons Note Book, No. V] page 205. There is no evidence in the Congregational records of this property ever having been used as a Burial Place nor of its having been sold after the purchase thereof by the Congregation.

[See Leon Huhner, "The Spanish and Portuguese Jewish Cemetery on New Bowery." New York, 1903.]

Property purchased in W. 13th Street but not used as a *Beth Haim* \* and resold.

The *Beth Haim* \* in West 11th Street near 6th Avenue. When the Street was opened a portion of our Ground was taken, leaving a large front on 11th Street with a very small space within. This is the shape of the ground at the present time. I was told by Mr. Naphtali Phillips that the bodies there interred are very far beneath the surface of the ground.

The *Beth Haim* \* in West 21st Street near 6th Avenue. Interment discontinued by order of Common Council in the year 1851. Bodies disinterred from the old *Beth Haim* \* in Oliver Street reinterred in 21st St., and many ancient tombstones removed to this place.

The *Beth Haim* \* now in use is situated on Long Island in Kings and Queens Counties opposite the Cypress Hill Cemetery, 5 miles from Williamsburg ferry, consisting of nearly 7 acres. It was consecrated August 3<sup>d</sup>, 1851 and chartered by the Legislature 1853.

[B. V, pp. 300-305]

From Mr. Naphtali Phillips' information and gleanings from Congregational Minutes.

Long account of Rev. David Mendes Machado in which it is stated that he

died in this city Tebet 2nd 1747, and was buried in the Oliver Street Beth Haim. His tombstone was inlaid with lead whereon was engraved the inscription mentioning age and term of service

as Hazan in Congn Shearith Israel, N. Y. The British during the Revolution stole the lead from off this and all the other tombstones similarly made. [See N. Taylor Phillips, *Publications*, No. 2, pp. 47-61.]

The death of Mr. Machado is properly registered in a Spanish family Bible (very ancient) of the Gomez family.

[B. V, pp. 252-56]

Copy of a paper found by Moses Gomez, Esqr., among others belonging to the Estate of his father (Isaac Gomez) It is a Meeting notice directed to "Mr. Isaac Gomez Junr" and by him endorsed as follows: "Trustees of Jewish Society with my observations on its contents delive<sup>d</sup>. at a Congregational Meeting."

(Printed Notice—J. J. L.)

Sir

A Meeting of the Electors of the Congregation Shearith Israel will be held at the Meeting Room of the Trustees on Wednesday the 15<sup>th</sup> Instant at half past 3 oclock in the afternoon in order to submit to them a proposition for the Sale of the property of the Congregation situated in Oliver and Bancker Streets.

By order of the Trustees of the C. S. I.

MOSES B SEIXAS, Clerk.

NEW YORK NOV 6<sup>th</sup> 1820.

Now follows what Mr Isaac Gomez has written on the blank portion of the above letter—J. J. L.

The Records shew that part of the property of the Bethayim was given by Lewis Gomez & two or three more of my ancestors and cost them £72; other parts were presents & purchases by Subscription; the deed of trust made out in the name of four Trustees (as p<sup>r</sup> Records will more at large appear) expressly states that it was to bury all Jews that shall or may die within the City and County of New York, and if put to any other use or purpose the same shall be forfeited or invalidated. The Snoga stands in the same way in trust. The four trustees gave a Bond, which is also on Record, of I believe £2000 Penalty that they would perform

the Trust and that it should not be by them nor their Heirs or Representatives put to any other use.

This property *can not be sold* nor alienated, or put to any other use, and although houses may have been erected therein still when the same may be wanted for a Burial Ground it must be used as such.

The Trustees can not sell any property without the permission of the Chancellor, and it's out of his power to grant such permission conformable with the deed of Trust and record thereof, for the present Trustees merely change the Trust on the same specific terms that the original trustees held on, and on non-performance, the property reverts to the Donors.

It's true the Legislature of the State may interfere but it's questionable whether they will or not, because it would be doing away the very essence of sacred gifts and unhinge the right of Property.

Such property as the Trustees may have purchased unconditionally, by applying to the Chancellor they can undoubtedly sell such property by his decree.

Burying grounds are exempted from assessments, and had the business been properly represented, an assessment on the same would not have taken place.

N. B. The above recited Subjects are made from the Records. When I quit the Board the whole debt of the Society was \$6000 Since that, by information the debt appears to be as follows

For the assessment	6500	
Purchase of (word illegible may be "Ground"		
J. J. L.)	5500	12.000
Other accumulated Debts		15.500
		<hr/>
		33.500

[B. V, pp. 263-66]

From Report of the Committee on Laws to the Corporation of N. Y. on the subject of interment within the populous parts of the city. Adopted 1825 June 9.

The Jews' burying ground, the remnant of which is now in the rear of the Tradesmen's Bank between James and Oliver Streets, was purchased by that people on the 17<sup>th</sup> December 1729 and we

all have heard (for few of the oldest citizens can now remember), what was the distance of that ground from the then thickly inhabited parts of the city—it was in familiar language “far out of town” and the then population of our city may be computed at about 8000.<sup>1</sup>

[B. V. p. 219]

#### ITEMS RELATING TO CEMETERIES, NEW YORK.

“JEWISH MESSENGER,” JULY 2, 1875—JEWISH CITY CEMETERIES.

##### I.

One of the few old Jewish cemeteries which are still within the limits of the City of New York is that belonging to the B'nai Jeshurun congregation. It is situated in Thirty-second Street, between Sixth and Seventh Avenues, being within several doors of the latter avenue. It has a frontage on the street of about thirty feet, and a depth of one hundred feet, being bounded on the west by some old and rickety wooden shanties, used for stables and other purposes, and on the east and north by a large furniture manufactory. . . .

At present the cemetery is in a sad state; though, in justice to the interested parties, it is only fair to mention that some slight improvement in it has lately been, and (so the writer was told) is still being made. . . . There is but one fine tree in the place, and that is a beech. The rest of the vegetation is poor and scant, consisting of a sparse growth of sickly-looking grass and foul-smelling, unornamental allanhus trees. . . .

. . . . The grave of one Joseph Levy, who died in 1833, is covered by a marble tomb; the side slabs are missing, the upper piece of which was strewed so thickly with tarred gravel that until a portion of it was removed the inscription could not be read. The tomb of Sarah Barnet (who died in 1827), of the same fashion as the one just mentioned, is, considering its age, in excellent condition, and the ground about it was almost entirely free from rubbish. The following epitaph is inscribed on the tomb of

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<sup>1</sup> [Page 72 of a pamphlet to be found in the New York Public Library.]



Elizabeth Davies, wife of Joseph Davies, who departed this life April 23d, 1836:

“If search of humble virtue’s dear remains,  
Reader, on this sad spot thy eye detains—  
She asked not praise from verse, from marble fame,  
The poor, the sick record her name.  
Her steadfast faith, her useful life commends:  
Tenderest of wives, of mothers, and of friends,  
Altho’ she sleeps, her memory doth live,  
And pleasing comforts to her mourners give.  
No private interests did her soul invade,  
No foe she injured, nor no friend betrayed;  
She followed virtue as her truest guide,  
Liv’d as a Jewess, and a Jewess died.”

[There is a] . . . stone at the head of Morris Van Praag’s grave, who died January 17th, 1849, aged nearly three years, . . .

There are about fifty tombstones still standing, most of which are in a state of good preservation. The disordered condition of this “city of the dead” makes us pause to wonder whether the surviving relatives, if any there are, of those interred therein, are aware of its plight—almost neglected and uncared for, and the playground of rude and thoughtless boys, who, with the ruthlessness of Vandals, desecrate the graves of the revered and beloved dead by disporting themselves thereon. . . .

Here is a list of some of the persons buried in this cemetery, copied from the portion of the tombstones that is decipherable, with the date of death:

Salomon Van Praag, 1829; Esther, wife of Joseph Levy, 1845; Judah, son of T. A. Meyer, 1845; Isaac Moses Cohen Peixotto; Samuel Barnett, 1845; J. M. Dyer, 1842; Benjamin F. Lewin, 1842; Moses H. Lowenstein, 1841; Leopold E. Lewin, 1837; Daniel Jackson, 1841; Michael Davis, 1841; Henry M. Lyons, 1845; Marcus Josephi, 1847; Simon Saroni, 1847; Joseph A. Michael, 1851; Rebecka Maria Jackson, 1847; Samuel Goldsmith, 1851; Hannah S., daughter of Sampson and Rebecka Levy, 1848; Henry Joseph, 1834; Levy B. Boruck; Isaac I. Salomon, 1845.

## II.

### ISSUE OF JULY 9TH 1875. THE OLIVER STREET CEMETERY.

That the antiquated burial ground, situated in New Bowery, near Oliver Street, and which belongs to the *Shearith Israel* Con-

gregation, is the oldest in New York City, and also the first place in the United States where the remains of deceased Jews were regularly and properly interred, is already known to our readers.

In 1655, one Abraham D'Lucena, who seems to have been the most prominent man among the few Israelites congregated in this city at that period, applied, in conjunction with several other co-religionists, to the government of New Amsterdam, for land for a burying ground. Their request was refused, but, however, about a year later it was granted, the land assigned them being beyond what was then the city limits.

Chief-Justice Chas. P. Daly, in an essay entitled "The Settlement of the Jews in North America," says,

The exact place outside the city where the first burial place of the Jewish race in North America was, has not been positively ascertained. It is my impression, however, that it was on the side of a ridge of elevated ground, near the southerly side of the present site of Oliver Street, west of Madison, and near Henry Street.

When nearly three quarters of a century had elapsed, the Jewish population of this city having increased greatly within that period, a new cemetery was required. Therefore, in December 1729, one Louis Gomez and his three sons, Mordecai, Daniel, and David, purchased a piece of ground for £30 for that purpose.—Says the writer quoted above:

It was an oblong piece of ground, 392 feet long, by 56 feet broad in the widest part, the boundaries being so arranged as to take in, in the rear, or southernmost part of it, the existing Jewish burial ground, which, as thus included, constituted about one third of the whole.

In November, 1730, Louis Gomez and his sons turned over the land bought by them to the Jews of this city for a cemetery, it being expressly stipulated by them, that it was for

a burial place for the use of the Jewish nation; and that the title, though in their names, was in trust; by which instrument they bound themselves in the sum of £1,000 to Jacob Franks and Nathan Levy, two merchants of New York, that they would not sell the land or any part of it, but that it should remain forever thereafter as a burying place for the Jews in general, and to no other use whatever.

In 1755, Madison Street was laid out, and the rear of the cemetery was extended to that street. After the Revolution, the upper portion of Oliver Street was opened, which necessitated the taking off of a part of the burying ground stretching over Oliver Street. In the beginning of this century, Chatham Square was put in order and paved, which took off a slight piece of the cemetery's front.

Excepting some slight alterations, it remained in this condition till 1823. In that year the Congregation Shearith Israel (the Mill Street Synagogue), made an application to Chancellor Kent to sell a portion of 45 feet fronting Chatham Square, and 88 feet deep.—The application was granted, and the Tradesmen's Bank bought it for \$15,000. Six years later the rear portion of the ground was sold.—Several years ago another piece of it was cut off by the extension of New Bowery, and the remains then exhumed, were removed to the cemetery in Twenty first Street. The one in New Bowery was finally closed against burials about 1822.

All that remains of this oldest "city of the dead" is a piece of ground fronting on New Bowery, near Oliver Street, and enclosed by a neat iron fence. This inclosure has a frontage of 35 to 40 feet, and is about 110 feet deep.—Contiguous to it on the south are some tenement houses, and a one-story wooden building, and adjoining it on the north are more tenement houses, and a large edifice used for various purposes. At the rear of it are the yards of some of the surrounding dwellings.

There are no plants or flowers within the cemetery, only a thick growth of grass and one beech or elm tree. On the northern side of it is a paved walk extending to the back, which, though slightly overgrown with grass, is in good condition. No refuse matter of any kind was perceptible, and, considering its environs, the cemetery is in a remarkably neat and orderly state, though it lacks ornamentation of any sort.

There are from 75 to 100 tombstones still standing. Many of them are of brown stone, and by reason of their extreme age, the inscriptions on them, in most cases, are illegible, or time has caused them to crumble or disappear entirely. There is only one tombstone in the ground which is in any great respect decorative. It is composed of marble, the pedestal being about two feet high, surmounted by a pyramidal column resting on three square slabs. It bears the following inscription upon its surface:

Erected by the trustees of the Congregation Shearith Israel, as a tribute of their respect and affection for the memory of the Rev Gershorm [*sic*] Mendes Seixas, who for fifty years faithfully performed the duties of Hazan of the Congregation.

He departed this life in 1816.

Some of the graves are enclosed in plain square tombs, while merely a slab of brown stone or marble rests upon the surface of others; and others again are marked by stones in upright positions. We present a few of the names that were deciphered during our visit.

Simon Nathan, 1822; Philip Nunes, 1818; Rachel, wife of David G. Graslo, 1819; Henry Daniel, 1799; Nathaniel Isaacs, 1798; Sarah, wife of Myer Loesman [Soesman(?)], 1814; Samuel, son of Ephraim Hart, 1795; Solomon M. Cohen, 1796; Jessy Judah; Judah King; David P. (or L.) Mendes, of Island Jamaica; Samuel Lazarus; Isaac, son of Moses and Judith Seixas; Benjamin M. Seixas, which stone is erected by his children.

It was with feelings of profound reverence that the writer gazed upon the first Jewish burial ground in the United States,—the burial place of the descendants of those who, driven from Spain, went to Holland, emigrated to Brazil, when that country was subjugated by the Dutch, and when Spanish power, once more became dominant, fled to New York,—there, and likewise all over this country in course of time, to find the civil and religious liberty their hearts and souls craved.

In view of the hallowed memoirs connected with this spot, it may not be out of place to make a few, as we consider them, timely suggestions. This remnant of the oldest Jewish cemetery in the United States, should be preserved as a sacred and lasting memorial of what the first Hebrew emigrants to this country, surrounded by obstacles of all kinds, became, and what their descendants, and also those who are not their descendants, have become—honored, respected, wealthy, and possessed of entire civil and religious freedom. Though every other old graveyard in this city should some day be torn up and dismantled, as is not at all unlikely, the one in question should be kept, not alone in the condition it now is, but various improvements should be made that will beautify it, and protect it, as well as human agency can, from the ravages of that fell destroyer—time. A high wall should be built around the sides and rear; flowers and trees planted in the ground, and a handsome entrance and wall of marble erected in front. In short, all should be done that would make it a permanent, pretty, and appropriate memorial. The old Jewish cemetery and synagogue at Newport, R. I., have been preserved intact and likewise embellished, the donation of one man who held them in reverence sufficing for that purpose. Cannot the wealthy Jews of this city go and do likewise for the burying ground in New Bowery?

[See Leon Huhner, "The Spanish and Portuguese Cemetery on New Bowery," New York, 1903; Rosalie S. Phillips, *Publications*, No. 18, pp. 93-122.]

III.

ISSUE OF JULY 23D 1875. THE PORTUGUESE CEMETERIES.

The handsomest Jewish cemetery in this city, and likewise the most interesting in many respects, is situated on the southern side of Twenty first Street, near Sixth Avenue, and between Sixth and Seventh Avenues. The earliest interments were made therein about 1826, and the latest, in 1853 or '55, it being the last resting place of numerous members of many of the most respected and well-known families of this city. It contains several rather pretty monuments, none of which, however, are very elegant either in design or workmanship.

The neatest one in the place, and the handsomest by virtue of its simplicity, is that of Major M. M. Noah, widely known, in connection with other matters, as the successful founder of the *Sunday Sun and Messenger*, a journal still in existence, and which now bears the title of the *Sunday Times* and *Noah's Weekly Messenger*. His cenotaph is a square column of fine marble, about ten feet in height, narrowing slightly from the base to the top. It is entirely free from decorative carving of any sort, and bears upon its eastern surface the following inscription:

The warm hand is cold, the kindly eye is dimmed, the generous heart has ceased to beat; for beneath this monument lie the mortal remains of M. M. Noah.

He died in 1851.

This cemetery is surrounded, excepting a very small portion adjoining the building occupied by the Y. M. H. A., by a wall about twelve feet high, and over a foot wide. On the east of the ground, which is about one hundred feet wide, and one hundred and ten feet deep, are a house on Twenty first Street and others on Sixth Avenue. Its southern boundary consists of tenements on Twentieth Street and its western, of the building and yard of the Y. M. H. A., and the yard of a private dwelling on Twentieth Street.

Taken as a whole, this "city of the dead" is in excellent condition. . . . Resting against the eastern and southern walls are many old tombstones which were removed from the Oliver Street Cemetery; but, apparently, they do not mark the places where the remains, which were also removed, are deposited.

Flowers there are none. A thick growth of grass covers the ground, the latter being studded with a profusion of willow and allanthus trees. Of the latter kind there are numerous young

ones springing up, which it would perhaps be as well to cut away, as already the place contains sufficient trees. Many of them have attained great height, the tops of some being on a level with the highest surrounding buildings. Near the front of the cemetery is a small brick structure. It is used as a *Matar* house, wherein the society connected with the congregation Shearith Israel keeps its tubs, &c., for preparing the dead for burial. . . .

A stone, several feet high, much worn with age, and crude both in design and workmanship, the form of which is a pyramidal column resting on a square pedestal, marks the last resting place of the Rev. Moses L. M. Peixotto. Engraved upon it are these words:

Erected by the trustees of the Congregation Shearith Israel as a tribute of their affection and respect for the memory of the Reverend Moses L. M. Peixotto, who, for upwards of nine years, faithfully performed the duties of Hazan of the said Congregation. His death took place in 1828.

The grave of Mary, wife of Judah E. Lyons, who died in 1841, is marked by a plain and thick slab of fine marble, and that of Myer Isaac Tobias, who died in 1839, is enclosed in a square tomb about four feet high, and two broad. It is surmounted by a large urn resting on a slab, the latter slanting from its centre to the sides, and at each corner is a small carved column. There is one monument upon which is inscribed only the following words: "To our mother Lenghi." It is a straight column several feet high, with a carved slab at the top overlapping the column on each side, upon which there stands an urn, the back portion of which is infolded in drapery.

The tombstone of Emily, wife of Solomon I. Joseph, has this epitaph upon its surface: "This stone is sacred to the memory of a beloved wife and devoted mother." And another has the following:

Moses Gomez, died May 29th, 1826, aged 84 years. Also Lewis, son of Aaron L. and Hetty Gomez, died December 12th, 1828, aged 5 years. These remains were removed from the Oliver Street burying ground, December 17th, 1855.

The monument of Harmon Hendricks, who died in 1838, is about five feet high, and nearly two feet in thickness. Overlapping the column on every side is an ornamental slab. The grave is enclosed with a very plain iron railing. The last resting place of Esther Eudora, wife of Samuel Hart, who departed this life in 1841, is marked by a slab several inches in thickness, upon which is rather

unskillfully carved a representation of two willow trees, between which reclines a lamb. The grave of Sarah, widow of Jacob Henriques, is inclosed in a square tomb, one side of which is slightly broken.

In the extreme south-western corner of the cemetery is the most neglected spot in the place. It is the grave of Miriam Eugenia Philips, who died in 1829, and no great care seems to have been taken to keep it in perfect order. A small, simple slab of gray stone marks it, and lying upon it is a piece of old carpet, by which it is completely covered.

There are from one hundred and fifty to two hundred stones still standing and in good condition. Besides those already enumerated, the following are the names we are enabled to transcribe:

Washington Hendricks, 1841; Samuel Benrimo, 1850; Andrew A. Jones, 1850; Angel Jacobs, 1850; Joseph Stuttgard, 1850; Abigail, wife of Joseph Henriques, 1850; Sarah, wife of Eleazor Leon, 1850; Ella, wife of Julius Goetz, 1850; Adolphus Ferris, 1850; Daniel L. Simpson, 1851; Henry Hart, 1851, Adeline Judah, 1851; George Ruben, 1847; Bellah Judah, 1847; Lewis Silver, 1847; Rebecca Judah, 1846; Daniel Jackson, son of Mordecai and Rebecca Noah, 1846; Abraham Jacobs, 1834; Abraham Levy Trompetler, 1834; Sarah Levy, 1855; Daniel L. M. Peixotto, 1843; L. Moses, 1843; Myer L. Seixas, 1845; Julie Danne, 1845; Rachel Hays, 1845; Charity, wife of Jacob S. Solis, 1839; Rachel, wife of Aaron Soria, 1839; Louisa C. Judah, 1836; Catharine, wife of William Glosenger Noah, 1840; Aaron Hart Judah, 1836; Rachel Judah, 1836; Amelia Judah, 1849; Samuel N. Judah, 1849; Rebecca, widow of Uriah Hendricks, 1844; John J. Judah, 1829; Samuel L. Tobias, 1832 or 1852; Benjamin S. Judah, 1831; Jacob Levy, M. S. Judith, Henry Tobias, Myer Tobias, Boas Israel Pike, Ashur Levy, Gertrude Solomon, Deborah Nathan, Joseph S. Simson, Isaac B. Seixas, Theodore Lazarus, Rachel Bentz, Abraham Hart, Nathan Heilbutt, Cary Judah, Rosa Micheal, Jacob S. Solis.

Besides their cemeteries in Oliver and Twenty first Streets, the Shearith Israel congregation likewise own a small one in Eleventh Street, near Sixth Avenue, and between Fifth and Sixth Avenues. It is on the southern side of the street, and within a few doors of the latter thoroughfare. It is in the form of a triangle, and on the west of it is a frame building, and on the east and south it is bounded respectively by a vacant lot and various buildings. The

cemetery is surrounded by a wall eleven feet high, and slightly more than a foot thick. The southern wall is sixty feet long, the northern, about sixty five feet, and the eastern about thirty five feet in width.

The ground is covered with a sparse growth of grass, and there are a couple of trees. It is in a fairly good condition, but by no means presents as nice and clean an appearance as the Oliver Street and Twenty-first Street burying grounds.

All the tombstones in the place, with the exception of four, are fastened to the wall with iron clamps. Appended is a copy of some of the names inscribed upon them:

Rachel Philips, 1822; Abraham Judah, 1825; Ephraim Hart, 1825; Simon Levy, 1825; Bellah Jacobs, 1826; Joshua Canter, 1826; Hannah Canter, 1826; Isaac Harry, 1828; Adolphus Solomons, 1828; Moses Leov, 1829; Barnard S. Judah, 1831; Israel Philips, 1833; Levy Solomons, 1835; Benjamin R. Jacobs, 1839; Archibald Seixas.

[B. I, No. 78.]







COAT OF ARMS OF GOMEZ FAMILY.

ITEMS RELATING TO THE GOMEZ FAMILY, NEW YORK.

Motto of the Gomez<sup>1</sup> family, coat of arms :

Boundless as the fishes of the sea,  
Was honour, and integrity, of the Gomez family,  
Supported by lion's strength they did their faith uphold  
Nor would they change it for a crown of gold.

From an old Spanish Bible, the property of Mr. Moses Gomez, in excellent preservation.

Copy of title page: Bible in the Spanish Language, Translated word for word from the true Hebrew by the very excellent writers, seen and examined by the office of the Inquisition, with the privilege of the illustrious Duke of Ferrara and now newly corrected in the house of Joseph Athias and printed by his order. Amsterdam the year 5421 [1660-1].<sup>o 2</sup>

In this Bible the following items were inscribed, which, with the permission of Mr. Moses Gomez are herein copied :

This book belongs to Moses Gomez. It formerly belonged to one who has passed away, Joseph de Torres of the island of Jamaica. I had it bound again, of which there is a note below. The death of my great-grandfather and of my great-grandmother, &c.<sup>o</sup> [so in original.]

On the 22nd of Elul 5453 [September 23, 1693] the Almighty saw fit to gather unto Himself my very blessed mother Rebecca de Torres. May her soul enjoy glory Amen.<sup>o</sup>

On the 13th of Sivan 5456 [June 13, 1696] the Almighty saw fit to gather unto Himself the very blessed gentleman, my father Jacob de Torres. May his soul enjoy glory Amen.<sup>o</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> [Much detail concerning the Gomez family may be found in the *Publications of the American Jewish Historical Society*. See Index and No. 21.]

<sup>2</sup> [Items marked by symbol <sup>o</sup> are in Spanish in the original.]

The above in the handwriting of the blessed gentleman who is with God, Mr. Joseph de Torres.°

On the 7th of June 1692, corresponding with the 3rd of Tamus [Sivan 5452] 5453 on a Tuesday between 11 and 12 o'clock there was a great earthquake in Jamaica.°

On the 9th of January 1702/3 on the Sabbath, between 11 and 12 o'clock occurred a conflagration in Port Royal, Jamaica, where all the houses were burnt. May God deliver us from a similar disaster.°

On the 28th of August 1712 corresponding with 17 Elul 5473 [26 Ab 5472] on a Thursday there was a great hurricane through the island of Jamaica, when many houses caved in, also in Port Royal the roofs of many houses fell in and a great many vessels in the port of Kingston were lost.°

On 21 Hesvan 5507 corresponding with the 23d of October 1746 God received the soul of the blessed Simha de Torres who died in N. York.°

On 13 Hesvan 5511 of the year 1750 on November 1st, God took unto Himself my uncle Mordy Gomez in New York.°

On 3 Nisan 5484 corresponding with the 16th of March 1724 God took unto Himself the blessed gentleman Joseph de Torres in Jamaica.°

On 22 Iyar 5499 corresponding with the 18th of May 1739 God took unto Himself my uncle Mordy de Torres in Jamaica.°

On the 2nd night of the feast of Passover corresponding with the 31st of March 1740, God took away the blessed gentleman, Mr. Moses Lewis Gomez in New York.°

(The word "Lewis" in different handwriting and overlined in the original—J. J. L.)

On 2 Sivan 5478 corresponding with the 21st of May 1718, God took away the blessed woman Esther Gomez in New York.°

On 2 Hesvan [5490] on the 14th of October, 1729, it pleased God to gather unto Himself that fortunately blessed woman, my mother Rebeca Gomez, in her 28th year in N York. May her blessed soul enjoy eternal glory Amen.°

On the 26th of September 1734 corresponding with the year 5495 on the 6th day, it pleased God to take unto Himself my brother Joseph Gomez in New York.°

On 28 Iyar on the 42nd of Homer, corresponding with the 31st of May 1753 at 3 P. M. on Friday, God took away the lady my step-mother—Esther Gomez in New York.°

On y° 20<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1786 on Fryday a half past four P. M. was Bouren Mord<sup>r</sup> Gomez son of Moses Gomez Jun<sup>r</sup> and on the 27<sup>th</sup> s<sup>d</sup> month he was circumcised by his father, his grandmother Rebecka Gomez was his madrena and myself his Padreno. the Lord make him his faithfull servant and Bless him Amen.

On the 23d of January 1744-5 was born Moses de Mordy Gomez. I was his godfather and Matantta Lucena his godmother. The Lord make him His faithful servant.°

(On some blank leaves at the back of the Bible—J. J. L.)

On the 2d of Tebet 5508 corresponding to [December 4] 1747 it pleased God to gather unto Himself the very fortunately blessed and honored gentleman, Rabbi David Mendez Machado, and was buried on the 3d of Tebet corresponding to the 5th of said month. May his blessed soul be gathered to the peace of the saints Amen°

On the 29th of May 1728 was born Moses de Daniel Gomez in New York. The blessed gentleman Moses Gomez and blessed lady Simha de Torres were his godfather and godmother and his mohel—his uncle Mr. Mordy Gomez.°

Esther Gomez, wife of Moses de Daniel Gomez, daughter of Isaac and Deborah Gomez, was born on the 8th of August 1739 in the Isles of Barbadoes.°

On the third of March corresponding to the 20th of Adar 5515 I was betrothed to my dear cousin Esther, the daughter of my uncle Isaac and Deborah Gomez, and our marriage was celebrated on the 4th of Sivan 5515 corresponding to May 14 1755.° [On another page of this Bible is found the same item with this addition: May the God of Israel be pleased to grant us many happy years and in its time give us the fruit of Blessing amen.—1755.°]

This book belongs to Moses de Daniel Gomez who inherited it from him who has passed away, Joseph de Torres who is with God.°

In the year 5519 on the second night of Purim [Adar 15] which corresponds to the 13th of March 1759 at a quarter past eleven o'clock it pleased the Almighty to bless us with a beautiful son. He was circumcised on Wednesday the 22nd of Rosh Hodes Adar. His godfather was my father, Mr. Daniel Gomez, and his godmother, my mother-in-law, Deborah Gomez, his mohel was my uncle, Mr. Benjamin Gomez. We named him Daniel. The Lord make him His faithful servant. Amen.°

On the 5th of Iyar 5521 corresponding to the 10th of May 1761, it pleased the Almighty on Sunday at 6 in the morning, to concede to us a beautiful daughter, whom we named Rebca. May God make her His faithful servant. Amen.°

On Tuesday at 9 A. M. of the 25th of Tisri corresponding to the 12th of October 1762, it pleased the Almighty to take unto Himself my beloved daughter Rebca. May the Almighty be contented and grant us all long life in His holy service.°

On Wednesday at 18 minutes after midnight of the year 5523 on the 9th of Nisan which corresponds with the 23d of March 1763 it pleased God to grant us a beautiful son whom we named Isaac. My father-in-law Isaac Gomez was his godfather and our cousin Rachel, the daughter of uncle Benjamin Gomez his godmother, and uncle Benjamin Gomez his mohel. May God permit us to raise him for the welfare of His holy service Amen.°

On the 4th of Elul 5524 on the Sabbath at a quarter past 12 noon, it pleased the Almighty to gather unto His Glory our beloved son Isaac at the age of seventeen months. May God be satisfied and grant us all long life in His holy service Amen. Corresponds to the 4th Vulgar Sabbath September 1st 1764 and he was buried the following day being Sunday September 2nd in our Bet Haim.°

On the 6th of Adar 5526 corresponding to the 14th February 1766 at 7.15 A. M. on Friday, it pleased the Almighty to grant us a beautiful son, who was circumcised by my uncle Benjamin Gomez. My brother-in-law Mattata was his godfather and my mother-in-law his godmother. We named him Joseph de Torres Gomez.<sup>1</sup> which we hope may be lucky. May the God of Israel make him His faithful servant Amen.°

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<sup>1</sup>[According to the Record Book of the Congregation the full name was Gabriel Joseph de Torres Gomez.]

On the 2nd Abul [April] 1769 corresponding to the 24th Roshodes Veadar 5529 it pleased our blessed God to gather unto Himself our beloved son Joseph at 2.30 P. M. on Sunday and we buried him on the following day. It pleased God and may He grant us all long life in His holy service. Amen.<sup>o</sup>

5528 on Tubeab the 15th of Menassem [Menahem] at 7.30 P. M. on Thursday corresponding to the 29th July 1768 was born our son Isaac. His mohel was my uncle Benjamin, his godfather uncle David Gomez, his godmother my mother-in-law. May the God of Israel make him His faithful servant Amen.<sup>o</sup>

On 10 Tamuz 5529 corresponding to July 15th,<sup>1</sup> 1769, it pleased God to take unto Himself my uncle David Gomez on the Sabbath at 8 P. M. His blessed soul enjoy glory. His age 72 years.<sup>o</sup>

On 8 Elul 5530 corresponding to August 28, 1770 at 8 P. M., it pleased God to gather unto Himself the fortunately blessed gentleman, my father-in-law Isaac Gomez at the age of 65 years. He was buried in our Beth Haim the following day. May God have judged his blessed soul with mercy.<sup>o</sup>

On the 10th of R. Ab being Sabbath and the 8th of August<sup>2</sup> 1772 at 9 P. M. it pleased God to gather unto Himself my uncle Benjamin Gomez at the age of sixty-two. We buried him the following day being Sunday Tishabeab in the afternoon. May his blessed soul enjoy glory. Amen.<sup>o</sup>

On 27 Nisan corresponding to April 16th 1776 on Tuesday at 10 minutes after 4 P. M. it pleased God to gather to Himself my sister-in-law Rachel Gomez, wife of Mattatia Gomez at the age of [35 ?] years and seven days. May her blessed soul enjoy glory Amen.<sup>o 3</sup>

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of July 1780 Corresponding to the 25<sup>th</sup> of Roshodes Tamus [5540], departed this life my Hon<sup>d</sup> Father M<sup>r</sup> Daniel Gomez agreed 85 years & 7 weeks. May his blessed Soul be received into Eternal Happiness & be seated among the Just. he departed at

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<sup>1</sup> [July 16<sup>th</sup>, according to the Record Book of the Congregation.]

<sup>2</sup> [August 9<sup>th</sup>, according to the Record Book of the Congregation.]

<sup>3</sup> [She died in Newark, N. J., according to the Record Book of the Congregation.]

11 oclock at night and was intered in the Jews burrying ground in the city of Philadelphia on Friday 29 July 1780 at 5 oclock in the afternoon. May the God of Israel grant us all comfort & long life in his holy service Amen.

The 11 of Yar the 26 of ye Homer. On ye 5 May 1781 departed this life my brotherinLaw Matt<sup>s</sup> Gomez on Sabbath at teen minitts after nine in the morning in the 39<sup>th</sup> year of his age and was buried in the Beth Haim in Philadelphia on Sunday y<sup>e</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> May at eleven oclock in the morning.

On ye 5<sup>th</sup> October 1783 corresponds to the 9 Tisry 5544, at 7 in the morning it being Bespera [Vespera ?] of Jom Kipur, departed this life my Dear & Beloved niece Deborah Gomez daughter of Matathis Gomez Decd. She was interd in the Bet Haim in Philadelphia on the same day at 5 oclock being Sunday.

On the 10 of Roshodes Elul corresponds to the 27 Aug<sup>t</sup>. 1784, at 43 minutes after five in the morning, Departed this life my Dear & Beloved son Daniel [M.] Gomez of the age of 25 years 5 months & sixteen days. he was interd on the same day at 5 oclock in the Beth Haim in N. York on fryday in entrante Sabath. The Lord give us all Long Life to serve him amen. May his blessed soul enjoy eternal glory.<sup>1</sup>

Moses the son of Daniel Gomez departed this life on the 12<sup>th</sup> April 1789 & buried in the Jewish Ground in New York.

Isaac Gomez Jun<sup>r</sup>, the son of the above Moses Gomez, died on the 5<sup>th</sup> Decr 1831 & buried in the Beth haim in the 21<sup>st</sup> Strt Sixth Avenue.

Mary Ann Lopez, widow of Joshua Lopez and daughter of Isaac Gomez Junr, departed this life on Monday Eve, [November] 15 1847, and was buried on Wednesday following in the Beth Haim in 21<sup>st</sup> Street.

On Saturday Morning at 4 oclock, August 2<sup>d</sup> 1851, departed this life my dearly beloved mother: Abigail Gomez daughter of the late Aron Lopez of Newport R. I. and widow of the late Isaac Gomez Jun<sup>r</sup> of this city in the 80<sup>th</sup> year of her age. She was

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<sup>1</sup> [This sentence is in Spanish in the original.]



buried in the New Beth Haim on Long Island adjoining Cypress Cemetery on Sunday afternoon August 4<sup>th</sup> 1851.<sup>1</sup>

May her soul rest in peace Amen.

Sarah Emanuel wife of Nathan Emanuel and daughter of Abigail and Isaac Gomez Jun<sup>r</sup>: departed this life on April, [1852], at Charleston, S. C.

May her soul rest in peace. Amen.

Thus far from the Bible heretofore described, 47 items; nothing omitted.

[B. IV, pp. 4-17]

From a small manuscript book by the late Isaac Gomez Jun<sup>r</sup>., now the property of his son Mr. Moses Gomez, kindly loaned for transcription on Sunday August 8<sup>th</sup>, 1869, on the first page of which is as follows:

New York

The Genealogy of the Gomez Family Down to the Year 1826, March ye 13<sup>th</sup>.

(Note written on back of title page—J. J. L.) "I have omitted stating that in the city Library kept at present in Nassau Street, there is a book, which speaks of the nobility of our family in Spain."

[Here follows material which was published by Miss Elvira N. Solis in *Publications*, No. 11, pp. 139-144. This in turn is followed by material given by Hon. N. Taylor Phillips in *ibid.*, No. 17, pp. 197-199. Only matter not contained in the above is here given.]

Aaron L., the son of Moses, married Miss Hetty Hendricks by whom he has: Hetty; Lewis; Roselane; Joshua Horacio.

Maria, the sister of Aaron, married Mr. Sam<sup>l</sup> Peixotto by whom she has Luisa Hetty, Rebecca, Moses. Lewis [another son of Moses], is yet a Bachelor. (Died on his passage from Wilmington, N. C., to St. Augustine, where he was buried. Aged 34 years.)

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<sup>1</sup> First interment in the new *Beth Haim*.\*

Esther, [the daughter of Mordecai Gomez], married Mr. Uriah Hendricks, by whom she had the following children:

A. Richa	E. Sarah
B. Rebecca	F. Hetty
C. Mordicia	G. Harmon
D. Hannah	H. Charlotte

(In the Bible of Mrs. M. Solomons, "She died early in the American Revolutionary war".)

A. Miss Richa Hendricks married Mr. Abraham Gomez of Bordeaux in France where they now reside. They have one son, Ernest or Arney.

B. Miss Rebecca Hendricks married Mr. Solomon Levy by whom she has Hetty Grace, Hayman, Caroline, Juliet, Augusta, Uriah, Mary. (Hetty died March 17, 1826, aged 33 years. Buried in old Beth Haim—\$250 fine according to law.) Hayman Levy married Miss Almira De Leon (his cousin); they have two children, Solomon.

C. Mordicia Hendricks died at sea having gone overboard the ship on his passage from London to New York.

D. Miss Hannah Hendricks married Mr. Jacob De Leon from the Island of Jamaica; the proceeds of this marriage is Abraham, Mordicia, Luisa, Henrietta, Almira, Rebecca, Uriah. N. B. They reside in S<sup>th</sup>. Carolina.

Abraham De Leon married Miss Nones of Philadelphia and has children the number and names unknown to me.

Mordicia De Leon married a Miss Cohen of Charleston S<sup>o</sup>. Carolina and has children of which I have no knowledge.

Miss Almira De Leon married Mr. H. Levy already noticed. . . .

E. Miss Sarah Hendricks was visited with insanity and so died not having been married.

F. Miss Hetty Hendricks married Mr. Naphtala Judah and has the following children: Samuel, Henrietta, Amelia, Uriah, Clinton, Riche Ann. Miss Amelia Judah married Mr. Rowland Cromline and they have a daughter Hetty.

G. Mr. Harmon Hendricks married Miss Frances Isaacs by whom he has Hetty, Uriah, Henry, Washington, Montague, Emily, Rose-

lane, Hannah, Cerinna. Miss Hetty Hendricks married Mr. A. L. Gomez already noticed. . . .

H. Miss Charlotte Hendricks married Mr. Benjamin Gomez; their children are Hetty, Matilda, Mathias, Emeline. (Emeline born Janry 15, 1809.)

The foregoing are the descendants of Mordeca Gomez and the letters from A to H designate the descent of Esther with Mr. Hendricks. . . . I have neglected to notice Miss Rachel Gomez of this branch. . . . She married Abraham Waage of England. Their children were Mordicia (dead), Amelia Ziporah. Of the above I have no further knowledge.

(In the Bible of Mrs. Mordecai Solomons, "She resides now either in Bristol or London." In another account by Mr. Gomez, 1817, "She died in Bristol, England, some five or six years ago".)

Children of Moses Daniel Gomez and Esther his wife:

Daniel, died (New York Augt 27, 1784, about 25 yrs old)

Isaac, died young

Joseph, D°

Rebecca, D°

Isaac, (the compiler of this paper—J. J. L.)

I, Isaac Gomez Jun<sup>r</sup>. was born in Queen, now Pearl Street, next to the corner of Burling Slip, on the 28 of July 1768 and married Miss Abby, the daughter of Mr. Aaron and Sarah Lopez and granddaughter of Jacob R. Rivera, all of Newport, Rhode Island, on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of May 1790, and we have thank God the following children living:

Hetty

Sarah

Rachel

Cynthia

Juliet, (born at Bloomingdale,  
1802 Augt 15)

Moses (Born in New York 1804  
Janry 19)

Mary Ann born 1799 March 3<sup>d</sup>

having lost three children in their infancy.

Hetty or Esther Gomez, my daughter, born March 29,<sup>1</sup> 1791.

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<sup>1</sup> [Elsewhere in the family records the date is given as March 31.]

[The following is written on a slip of paper pasted in the book:]

All my children except Rachel & Juliet were born in my house then known by No. 107 Water Street, New York. We had a son next to Hetty whom we called Moses, who died 18 months old.

In another paper by Mr. Isaac Gomez, 1817, he adds to the names of his children:

Juliet, born (at Bloomingdale being there for the summer season), August 15, 1802.

Sarah Gomez, my 2<sup>d</sup> daughter, born Sept. 12,<sup>1</sup> 1793.

Cynthia Gomez, my 3<sup>d</sup> daughter, born March 16, 1795.

Rachel Gomez, my 5<sup>th</sup> daughter, born at Harlem, Aug. 9, 1800.

Isaac Gomez, 5<sup>th</sup> son of Luis M. Gomez, died Aug. 28, 1770, married Miss Deborah De Leon of Barbados, who died Aug 6, 1801, aged 87 years, 9 months, 12 days. Their children were Mathias and my mother Esther.

(In another paper, "They had several children who died young, except Mathias and Esther".)

Mathias Gomez married Miss Rachel Gomez (the daughter of Benjamin Gomez, and who died in New York, Apl 16, 1776, and was buried there). Their children were:

1. Deborah died Phila, Oct. 5, 1783

2. Isaac, D<sup>o</sup>., a cripple (died Dec. 4, 1810)

3. Esther, Do. (In another paper: "Esther married contrary to her religion to a Mr. Meeks, who I understood did not treat her well. She died in Virginia and left a son about whom I know nothing.")

4. Benjamin married Miss Charlotte Hendricks. Their children are Hetty, Matilda, Mathias, Emeline, as already mentioned. . . .

Esther Gomez, my hon<sup>d</sup>: mother, married my hond: father, Mr. Moses Gomez, as noticed.

Benjamin Gomez, 6<sup>th</sup> son of Luis M. Gomez, (died Aug. 8, 1772, aged 62), married Miss Esther Nunes of Barbados, by whom he had Rachel, who became the wife of Mathias already noticed. . . .

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<sup>1</sup> [Elsewhere in the family records the date is given as September 13.]

*Items Relating to the Gomez Family, New York.* 289

Isaac Gomez of Spain

	Lewis Moses Gomez & Miss Ester Marchaze	Leonora	A Daughter unknown		
Jacob (1)	Mordecia & Esther Campos & Rebecca De Lucena (2)	Daniel & Rebecca De Torres (3)	David & Rebecca DeSilva (4)	Isaac & Deborah De Leon (5)	Benjamin & Esther Nunes (6)

(2) Moses married in Jamaica	Isaac married in Curaçao	Jacob No issue
a daughter married S Flamingo	children	

Solomon  
Jacob

(2) Mordicia Gomez children by his second marriage  
with Rebecca De Lucena

Abraham no issue	Moses & Esther Lopez	Esther & Uriah Hendricks	Rachel & Abm Waage
Aaron & Hetty Hendricks	Maria & Samuel Peixotto	Lewis	
Hetty, Lewis, Rosalie, Horatio, Edwin, Alida, Lucilla	Louisa, Hetty Rebecca, Moses		

Esther Gomez &  
Uriah Hendricks

Riche & Abm Gomez (a)	Rebecca Soln Levy (b)	Mordicia Died young (c)	Hannah J Deleon (d)	Sarah no issue (e)	Hetty N Judah (f)
Arnest	(b)		Harmon Frances Isaacs (g)	Charlotte Benjn Gomez (h)	

(b) Hetty	Grace	Hayman & Almira De Leon Solomon	Caroline	Juliet	Augusta	Uriah	Mary
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(d) Hannah Hendricks  
Jacob De Leon

Abraham Hetty Nunes	Mordicia Rebecca Lopez	Luisa	Almira H. Levy	Rebecca
Children	Children	Henrietta	Uriah	

(f) Hetty Hendricks &  
Naphtali Judah

Samuel	Henrietta	Amelia R. Cromelien	Uriah	Clinton	Riche Am.
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Hetty

(g) Harmon Hendricks  
Frances Isaacs

Hetty A. L. Gomez	Uriah	Henry	Washington	Montague	Emily
Children		Rosaline	Hannah	Cerrina	Hermoine

(h) Charlotte Hendricks  
& Benjn Gomez

Louisa Matilda	Mathias	Emeline N. Adolphus No issue
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The letters from (a) to (h) designate the family of Mr. and Mrs. Hendricks.

Rachel Gomez  
Abm Waage

Mordicia No issue	Amelia	Zipporah	Of this family I have no further account
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[Nos. (1) to (8) indicate the children of Isaac Gomez and Abigail Lopez.]

3. Daniel Gomez &  
Rebecca De Torres

Joseph Died young		Moses & Esther Gomez			
Daniel No issue	Joseph Died young	Rebecca Died young	Isaac & Abby Lopez		
Hetty & Soln Seixas (1)	Moses Died young (2)	Sarah N. Emanuel (3)	Cynthia M Frois (4)	Mary Ann (5)	Rachel A Judah No issue (6)
Benj Seixas Isaac Seixas Gershom Seixas		Flora Emanuel Abby " Miriam " Lafayette G "	Moses died young	Juliet G. Pesoa (7)	Moses (8)

(5) Isaac Gomez  
Deborah De Leon

Mathias Rachel Gomez		Esther Moses Gomez	
		Descent mentioned . . . .	
Deborah Died	Isaac Died	Hester Died	Benjamin Charlotte Hendricks
No issue	No issue	no issue	Deseent mentioned . . . .

6. Benjamin Gomez  
Esther Nunes

Rachel Mathias Gomez
Descent mentioned . . .

Nos. 1 to 6 show the children of Lewis Moses Gomez.

After skipping one blank page, follow in regular succession  
(J. J. L.)

Deaths

Esther Gomez, my GGM., May 21, 1718.

Lewis Moses Gomez my GGF., March 31, 1740.

In Pencil from Bible

my greatuncles ° my grandfathers *	Jacob °	Novbr 1 1750
	Mordicia °	
	Daniel *	July 28 1780
	David °	July 15 1769
	Isaac *	Augt 28 1770
	Benjamin. °	Augt 8 1772
	Moses my hon <sup>d</sup> : father	April 12 1789
	Esther my hon <sup>d</sup> : mother	Augt 7 1822 aged 83 yrs
	Mathias my uncle	May 5 1783
	Rachel my aunt	April 16 1776
	Deborah my cousin	October 5 1783
	Isaac Mathias " Do	Decbr 4 1810 43 yrs old
	Esther " Do	
	1 Rebecca my grandmother	Oct 14 1729
	Deborah " D°	Augt 6 1801
	Esther " G. F. Dan's Second wife	May 31 1753
	Daniel my brother	Augt 27 1784
	Rebecca the widow of Mordica Gomez	July 1801
	Abraham their son	Septbr 12 1808
	Esther Gomez wife of cousin Moses d of	
	Aaron Lopez of N Port	Janry 3 1811
	Morris Frois my grandson	Augt 26 1823
	Hetty Levy	March 17 1826
	Moses Mordicia Gomez	May 29 1826
	Moses Peixotto an infant grandson of	
	Moses M Gomez	Febry 20 1827
	Joseph Lopez, brotherin law of I° Gomez,	
	his wifes brother aged 68 yrs	Novbr 27 1822 <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> [In another list of deaths kept by Mr. Gomez these additional entries appear: "Benjamin Gomez, August 14, 1828," and "Lewis Gomez, my nephew, Nov. 15, 1827."]

Thus far have I gone with the List of Marriages, Births and deaths of the family, as far as has come to my view up to the 13<sup>th</sup> March 1826.

ISAAC GOMEZ, JUNR:

However disagreeable it is to me to open a new Register of death, yet as it has occurred it is necessary to note the same, viz:

No 1 On Friday the 17<sup>th</sup> of March 1826, died Miss Hetty, the daughter of Mr Solomon and Mrs Rebecca Levy, of a Consumption and was buried on Sunday morning the 19<sup>th</sup> in the Chatham Street Burial Ground, for which Two Hundred & Fifty Dollars fine was paid or deposited according to Law. She was 33 years of age.

No 2. On Monday, May the 29<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon, died my second cousin Mr. Mordecia Gomez, and was buried on Tuesday afternoon in the Burial Ground in Chatham Street for which a fine of 250 Dollars was paid. He was 82 years old.

No 3 On Tuesday the 20<sup>th</sup> of February 1827, Died Moses Peixotto, infant son of my Niese Mrs. Maria Peixotto & Saml. her husband in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of his age after a short illness of 2 or 3 days of a stoppage of the pipes—something bordering on the Croup. God rest his soul, Amen.

Next page in pencil mark in another handwriting (J. J. L.):

My Brother in Law, Gustavus Pesoa, departed this life on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of Nov. 1843.

My adopted Brother Jacob Valverde Gomez was lost at Sea in the hurricane of Oct 6, 1844 off Key West in the 33 year of his age. Jb. V. Gomez was born in Barbadoes on Saturday Shabat Parah. The Berith was on Shabat Hachodesh. His father was Raphael who died in Barbadoes 5571 Sivan 7, May 31, 1811

After skipping many blank pages,

Solomon Seixas & Hetty Gomez

Married February 1<sup>st</sup> 1815 Their children are:

Benjamin Born November 14, 1815

Isaac June 8, 1817

Gershom March 19, 1819.



Nathan Emanuel & Sarah Gomez

Married Febry 14, 1816 *Shebat* \* 15

Their Children:

Flora	Born March 13, 1817
Abby	April 1, 1819 [Elsewhere in the family record is added: "at Georgetown, South Carolina "]
Marion	April 24, 1822
Lafayette Gomez } Emanuel }	Augt 19, 1824
Juliet	March 27, 1827
Joel	July [8], 1829
Hetty	October 2, 1831
Edwin	June, 1834

(In the other Bible, July 8, 1835)

Mordecai Frois and Cynthia Frois

Married Febry 7<sup>th</sup> 1816 *Shebat* \* 8 5576

Their children are:

Morris born October 13, 1817.

Rachel Do April 6, 1827.

(In pencil) Abby died, 1861.

(In the other Bible, Abby Born Curaçao Novbr 24, 1829)

Gustavus I Pesoa & Julia Gomez

Married 13 June 1832.

Their children are:

Isaac Gomez Pesoa, Born March 31 1833.

Oscar, born 1838

Rosina

Cynthia, Died

Samuel

Aaron Lopez Gomez & Miss Hetty Hendricks

Married May 20 1821.

Their children are

Hetty Maria Born March 7 1822

Lewis July 18 1823

Roseline April 6 1825

Joshua Horatio Febry 26 1827

In pencil Edwin (Febry 22 1829)

Hermoine

Alida

Samuel Peixotto and Maria Gomez d: of Moses Mordecai Gomez  
Married Febry 26, 1817,

Their children are:

Rachel Louisa Born Janry. 27 1820.

Hetty Augt. 17 1821.

Rebecca Novbr. 22 1822.

Moses March 2 1825; Died 1827 Febry. 13

Mr. Aaron Judah & Rachel Gomez

Married Febry. 3, 1819

Their children are a daughter born 1830 Febry 3 & died the next day.

Mr. Uriah Hendricks & Miss Frances Tobias

Married June 14 1826

[They had a daughter, Henrietta Luna Hendricks,] Born Augt. 14 1827

(Beginning from the other end of the Book the following items are thus inscribed—J. J. L.)

Births & Marriages since the 13<sup>th</sup> March 1826.

On the Twenty sixth of February, 1827, Joshua Horacio Gomez, son of my nephew Mr Aaron Gomez & Mrs Hetty Gomez his wife.

On the seventeenth of March, 1827, was born Juliet Emanuel, my granddaughter, by my daughter Mrs Sarah Emanuel.

On the Tenth of April, 1827, was born on the island of Curaçao, my granddaughter Rachel, by my daughter Mrs Cynthia Frois.

July 14 1827, Tuesday Evening, Mrs. Uriah Hendricks was delivered of a daughter to whom they gave the name of [Henrietta Luna Hendricks].

November the fifteenth, 1827, Died on his passage from Wilmington, North Carolina (where he resided) to St Augustine, my nephew Lewis Gomez in the 34<sup>th</sup> year of his age. May his soul rest in peace. N. B. he was buried in St Augustine.

[B. IV, pp. 17-43]

From Bible: 1811 March 16 Born in Barbadoes Jacob Valverde Gomez adopted son of Isaac Gomez.

1817 Novbr. 13, Nathan Emanuel & wife & daughter Flora left N. Y. for Georgetown S. C. in the Sloop *George*, Cap<sup>n</sup> Eldridge.

Description of Letter of Patent granted to Lewis Gomez by Queen Anne of Great Brittain on the 18<sup>th</sup> April, 4<sup>th</sup> year of her Reign, [being letters of denization, 1705].

It is engrossed on parchment and in the Latin Language. The document is 22 inches long from top to bottom. The lower portion is doubled 1½ inch like a hem, to which is attached the cord that runs through the large Seal. Its width is 27¼ inches. It is surrounded by a printed border of elaborate Scrollwork containing fruits, flowers, Dragons, coat of arms &ca. It is written in the old English characters with flourishes and in some places difficult to decipher, and here and there illegible from age. Being in Latin the name of Lewis Gomez is written "*Ludovico Gomez.*"

It is now in possession of Mr. Moses Gomez, son of Isaac Gomez deceased, with whose permission I have made this description and taken the following copy.

Picture of Queen Anne

The Document is endorsed on the back :

Lewis Gomes of New York, Merchant, his Denization  
(Signed) Cocks.

On the back of the Document :

NEW YORK June ye 13<sup>th</sup> 1717.

Recorded in the Secretary's office of the Province of New York in the Book of General Entries Liber M folio 216 Compared and Examined. Signed and sealed.

The Seal attached to the foregoing document is of hardened beeswax 5 inches in diameter; each side evidently separately stamped and secured together whilst hot with twisted cords red and white running through the two parts and secured to the document.

On one side the design is indistinct: inscription: "*Anna Dei Gratia Regina Fidei Defensor.*" On the reverse the design is a figure of a woman on horseback. Inscription

around the figure “ *Anna Dei Gratia Magnae Britanniae Regina*  
*fid . . .* ” (illegible)

Accompanying this document Mr. Gomez has shown me a memorandum (the original one) of the Expences for obtaining the same which is as follows:

The original is endorsed on the back as follows:

“ Bill of Charges for Mr Lewis Gomes’ Denization ” in the same handwriting as the bill itself.

1704	Mr Lewis Gomes Merchant in New York Dr to francis Milles for Letters Patent under the Great Seal of England for the Denizacon of the said Mr Gomes viz <sup>t</sup>	
		£ S d
	ffor drawing a petition to her Ma <sup>ties</sup> Queen Ann to pray her to make the s <sup>d</sup> Mr Gomes a ffree Denizen of her Kingdom of England and of her Realms and Do- minions thereunto belonging and for Coachhire to and from S <sup>t</sup> James’s to get it p <sup>re</sup> sented and Answered	.10
ffeb <sup>r</sup> 26	paid the Secretary of State for the answer of it	2. 3
	ffor Stamps drawing and swearing Mr Abraham Nunes Affidavit	.3
	Attending her Ma <sup>ties</sup> Sollicitor Generall on the Refference	.10
	p <sup>d</sup> him and his clerk for the Report upon the Refference	2.16
1705 March 31	p <sup>d</sup> for a Warr <sup>t</sup> from the Queen for the Denizacon	6.12. 6
	gave the Secretarys Clerk 5 <sup>s</sup> Wateridge & Coachhire 5 <sup>s</sup>	.10
Apr 4	p the Sollicitor Generall and his Clerk for drawing the Bill	3.15
7	p <sup>d</sup> the Secretary of State for the Queens signing the Bill	6.12. 6
	Gave his Clerk 5 <sup>s</sup> Coachhire 5 <sup>s</sup>	.10
18	p <sup>d</sup> ffees and Clerks at the Signet Office	3.10
	p <sup>d</sup> ffees and Clerks at the Privy Seal	3.10
	p <sup>d</sup> for a private Seal	2

*Items Relating to the Gomez Family, New York.* 297

18	p <sup>d</sup> at the L <sup>d</sup> Keepers for the Praecipi at the Great Seal	£ S d 1.10
20	p <sup>d</sup> fees and Clerk at the Patent Office p <sup>d</sup> for the Stamps for the Patent	5 4
21	p <sup>d</sup> fees and Clerk at the Stamper and Great Seal ffor my own time and ffees for soliciting and passing the s <sup>d</sup> Lrds patents through all the offices	8  5. 7. 6
Total		57. 1. 6

[B. IV, pp. 44-57]

Mr. Moses Gomez has in his possession and in good state of preservation a Ledger of Daniel Gomez wherein is contained an account of "the Estate of my Dec<sup>d</sup> father Luis Gomez", page 3.

These are in possession of Mrs. G. Pesoa.	{	Likeness of Moses Gomez, born 1722. Likeness of Mr. & Mrs. Aaron Lopez. Likeness of Mr. Rivera. Likeness of Mr. Isaac Gomez taken in 1823.
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[B. IV, p. 64]

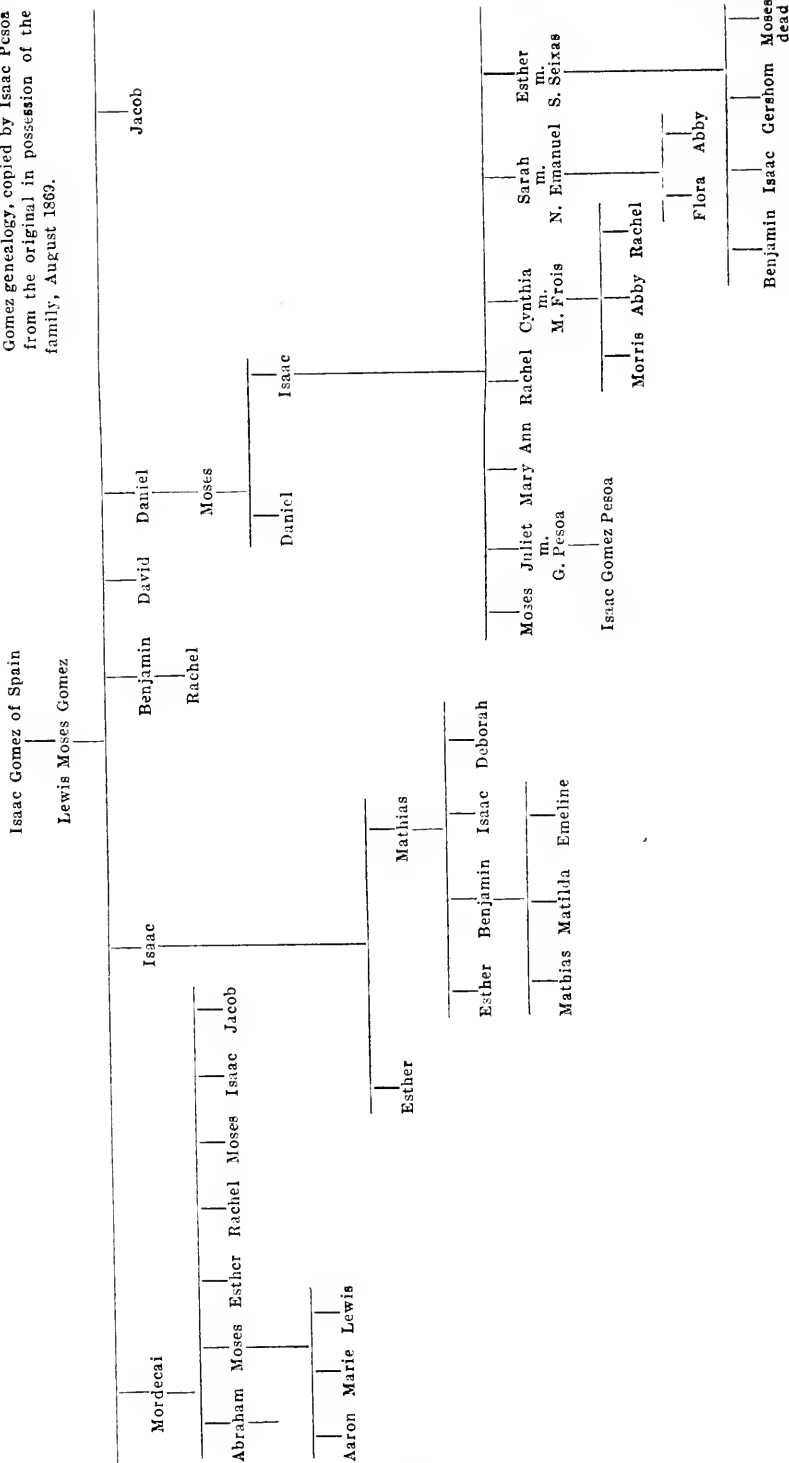
Some members of the Gomez family were designated as "Nassau Gomez" from the fact of their being owners of a large tract of land in Nassau Street or in the vicinity of Nassau Street. (Told by Horatio Gomez, M. D.)

[B. IV, p. 64]

Family Tree of the family of Gomez in New York found among the papers of Mr. Isaac Gomez. Copied by Isaac Pesoa from the original in possession of the family, August 1869. [See page 298.]

[B. IV, p. 64]

Gomez genealogy, copied by Isaac Pesoa  
from the original in possession of the  
family, August 1863.



Paper marked "Jones' Opinion" 1773, property of Moses Gomez (copied April 1874), relating to the rights of the family of Gomez on the property of the Beth Haim in Chatham Street and the Synagogue in Mill Street.

CASE. /

The Jews in the City of New York, in or about the year 1728 purchas'd the ground on which their Synagogue is built of Cornelius Clopper, who together with his wife convey'd the same to Luies Gomez, Jacob Franks, Mordecai Gomez and Rodrigo Pacheco & their heirs, & they gave a bond to Abm. Isaacs, Daniel Gomez and Nathan Levy in the penalty of Two thousand Pounds to secure the land forever for the use of the Jewish Congregation inhabiting in the City of New York. Jacob Franks surviv'd all the other Grantees named in the Deed from Clopper & his wife & died some years ago without conveying or deviseing the land to any person—Daniel Gomez is the only surviving Obligee in the Bond.

In the Year 1729 Lewes, Mordecay, Daniel & David Gomez purchased a piece of land of Richd. David attorney to Noy Willey & Davids as attorney to Willey conveyed it to them & their heirs, they again made a present of this land to the Jewish Congregation in the City of New York for a burial Ground ye 24 Nov<sup>r</sup>: 1730. Executed a bond to Abm. Isaacs, Jacob Franks and Nathan Levy in the penalty of one Thousand Pounds to secure it to the Congregation for that use.—Daniel Gomez is the only survivor Grantee named in the deed for the Burial Ground & Jacob Franks was the surviving obligee in the last mentioned Bond.

On the 9<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup>: 1758 Cornelius Clopper, in consideration of Three Hundred Pounds co'veyed another Lott adjoining the Synagogue to Daniel Gomez, Joseph Simson, Jacob Franks and Myer Myers & their Heirs in trust for the use & Benefit & behoof of the Jewish Congregation in New York then and forever & to and forever no other use interest or purpose whatsoever. The Consideration of this purchase was paid by the Congregation.

Upon this Case the foll<sup>g</sup>: questions are asked.

*Question.* Whether Daniel Gomez y<sup>e</sup> only surviving obligee named in the first bond can by law appoint such new Trustees as he may think proper as far as relates to the Synagogue?

*Answer.* The right to the ground upon which the Synagogue is built, by the death of the other Grantees survives to Mr. Franks & upon his death vested in his heir. Mr. Daniel Gomez

has no title to the land and therefore can not convey to any new Trustees, but being the surviving obligee named in the bond given to secure it for the use of the Congregation, he is the only person who can maintain a suit upon that bond if it should be forfeited, and this right will of course go to his executors. But he cannot transfer the Bond to any other person so as to enable them to bring a suit upon in their own name.

*Question 2<sup>d</sup>.* Whether Daniel Gomez can by law appoint new trustees for the Burial Ground?

*Answer.* The right of the burial ground is vested in Mr. Daniel Gomez by survivorship and will of course descend to his heirs, he may convey the land to whom he pleases. But I can not think it would be prudent to do it without being discharged from his Bond.

*Question 3<sup>d</sup>.* Can Daniel Gomez oblige the other Grantees named in the last deed from Clopper to give bond to secure the land thereby conveyed for the benefit of the Congregation. & if not can compel a division?

*Answer.* I do not think Mr. Gomez can oblige the other Grantees to give any such bond, the Trust decl[ared] in the deed itself seems to have been intended to answer the same purpose as the bond in y<sup>e</sup> other cases & no alteration can be made without the consent of all the other grantees who are living. I have not seen any either of the bond or the deed, but if the deed is as stated, it may be doubted whether it will have the effect intended by the parties and I think it would be well to have the trust more particularly specify'd, there [can be] no division, but upon a supposition that the trust is void, that Mr. Gomez may convey his right to whom he pleases subject to the same trust in which he holds it.

*Question 4<sup>th</sup>* Has Daniel Gomez a right to prosecute for any trespass or damage done to the Burial ground & whether he can sue Casper Wester by whose order several per[sons have] dug so near it that part of the ground has fallen down, it being situated on a hill?

*Answer.* The title being vested in Mr. Gomez, he has a right to prosecute any person who trespasses upon y<sup>e</sup> Burial Ground & may sue Wester for any damage occasioned by his digging too [near ye land].

SAML: JONES New York

y<sup>e</sup>: 17 June 1773.

A True Copy M. G<sup>r</sup>.



[The rights of the Gomez family to the burial ground subsequently became the subject of considerable litigation and the claims were carefully examined and adjudicated by the New York courts. See *Tradesman's Bank vs. Gomez*, 4 Sandford's Law Reports.]

[B. I, No. 34]

Mr. Isaac Gomez in 1829 made a complete copy of a prayer book in English, which book is now in my possession. It was presented by Mrs. Abigail Gomez to Miss Georgiana Jacobs, who afterwards gave it to me. It contains the English translation by David Levy of the Daily Prayers "written by Isaac Gomez Jr. for his dear wife Mrs. Abby Gomez, New York 1829."

The book is prefaced by the following letter.

Mrs. Abby Gomez,

My Angelic Wife:

Permit me to request your kind acceptance of this book. Having written it for your use, I flatter myself you will use it with pleasure, it being the work of him who has the honour of having been your loving husband for upwards of Nine and Thirty years during which time its a pleasant thing to know that domestic happiness has been our lot and I make no doubt but it will continue during our journey through life and I feel the happiness so great that I may say with truth "That I thank my God for having created thee for me and me for thee." And may we be permitted by "The Great Monarch of the Universe" to be together for many years yet to come of uninterrupted felicity is my sincere wish, and I trust you are well convinced that did I possess the riches of Peru, my greatest happiness would be to lay them at your feet. With those sentiments sincerely expressed I take leave to say that I am truly

Your Devoted and Loving Husband

ISAAC GOMEZ JUN<sup>R</sup> <sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> [Isaac Gomez, Jr., was also the compiler of a volume in prose and verse which was published in New York in 1820 under the title of "The Selections of a Father."]

The above mentioned Manuscript of 361 pages is a complete transcript of D<sup>d</sup> Levys 1<sup>st</sup> Volume of translation of Prayers for the Portuguese Minhag with 33 additional pages Notes & Illustrations of passages in the foregoing translation & other interesting matters, bound in leather, Marbled edges in good preservation. J. J. L.

[B. IV, pp. 89-90]

#### ITEMS FROM THE GOMEZ FAMILY BIBLE.

From an old family Bible of Isaac Gomez in possession of the children of the late Nathan Emanuel, kindly furnished by Mrs. Mordecai Solomons, one of the grandchildren of Mr. Isaac Gomez.

#### The Birth of the Servants

Charlotte the daughter of Lilly on the 16<sup>th</sup> of April 1786.

June Welsh the daughter of Phillis on the 30<sup>th</sup> of August 1787.

Adam the son of Phillis on the 20<sup>th</sup> of Febry. 1791.

Wednesday July 2 1823. On this night, or rather day at half past two oclock in the morning between the 3<sup>d</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Died my worthy servant Lilly after a tedious illness of the dropsy, after having been in our family for upwards of 40 years. She was a good honest and industrious woman. May God rest her soul. She was buried in the burial ground of Lewis Francis in first Street about six lotts from Rivington Street. God rest her Soul & may her body rest in peace.

1817 Monday June 2<sup>nd</sup>, Master Daniel Da Costa Gomez arrived here from Curaçao in the Dutch Schooner *Harmony*, Capt<sup>n</sup> Molena, in 22 days passage, to my care and guardianship for his education from his respected mother, Mrs. Esther Da Costa Gomez, who has placed him with me.

1804 December 18 } I lost my Dwelling in Water Street, my store  
in the night }  
house in Front Street and the house opposite to it in Front Street  
in the night of the 18<sup>th</sup> December 1804 by fire which was very  
destructive. . . .

- 1818  
Septbr. 1 } My brother in law, Mr. Abm. Rivera, returned from  
Liverpool this first day of Septbr. having been in  
Europe for 18 years.
- 1819  
March 15 } The remains of my sister in law Maria Levy, wife  
of Jacob Levy brought from Wilmington and interred  
in Beth Haim. She was daughter of Aaron Lopez of  
Newport, R. I. She died in Wilmington, North Caro-  
lina in 1812 on the 22<sup>d</sup> July, from whence her remains  
was sent here to Mr. Aaron L. Gomez for reinterment.  
[See No. 67, p. 104.]
- 1819  
Febry. 3 } Married at Residence of Mr. Isaac Gomez, No 31  
Provost Street, by Rev. M. L. M. Peixotto, Aaron  
Judah & Rachel Gomez daughter of I<sup>c</sup> Gomez. . . .
- 1822 Decbr. 12, Mr. Abraham Gomez, Mrs. Richa Gomez, his wife,  
and Master Arney Gomez, their son, went to Bor-  
deaux, France. News has been received of their  
arrival after a passage of 30 days.
- 1823, April 22, My daughter Cynthia Frois, her husband and son  
Morris, with their mulatto servant Maria, in  
company with Mr. Haim Cohen Henriques, em-  
barked on board the brig *Fame*, Captn Bois, for  
Curaçao to stop at S<sup>t</sup> Thomas on their way,  
Information of their safe arrival first at St.  
Thomas after 23 days passage, they remained  
there 10 days and in 4 or 5 days more reach  
Curaçao.
- 1823, Augt. 9, My son Moses E. Gomez set sail in the Brig  
*Exertion*, Capt<sup>n</sup> Jonathan Hamon, for Curaçao—  
He arrived safely after a passage of 26 days.  
1824, August 11, returned from Curaçao in the  
Brig *General Jackson* after a passage of 20 days.
- 1823 Oct. 26, My daughter Sarah, her 3 children, Flora, Abby  
and Marion, Miss Isabel Emanuel & servant Jane  
went to Georgetown, South Carolina, in Sloop  
*Essex*, Capt<sup>n</sup> Tovey. Passage money, 36 Dollars.  
1824 June 4, my daughter Sarah & 3 children  
returned.

- 1823 Nov. 8, My daughter Miss Maryann Gomez saild for Curaçao on a visit to her sister Frois, in the Brig *Fame*, Capt<sup>a</sup> Phillip T. Boer. She arrived at Curaçao after an unpleasant voyage of 21 days. They had a storm 2 days after their departure which beat in the bullworks & broke the main boom in which the Cargo was. thank God that he escaped my child from danger.
- 1824 June 13, She returned to New York, delay of 5 days at quarantine. She had 16 days passage; came in the Dutch Brig *Ann Elizabeth*, Captn Hamilton.
- 1824 Augt. 7, My son in law, Mr. Nathan Emanuel, arrived from Georgetown via Wilmington.
- 1824, October 4, My adopted son, Jacob V. Gomez, apprenticed to Mr. De Guerre to learn Jewelry business.
- 1825, Janry 22, The Esnoga in Philadelphia Consecrated. Mr. Peixotto, *Hazan*,\* went to Philadelphia and assisted in the ceremonies. The *Hazan* \* in Philadelphia is Rev. Mr. Keese of Barbadoes, last from St Thomas.

Children of my uncle Matts Gomez:

Isaac was born	24 June 1767
Deborah Do	<del>18 Janry 1768</del> [thus in the original]
Benjn	17 Septbr 1769
Esther	19 July 1768.

- 1801 July, My aunt, Mrs. Rebecca Gomez died.
- 1827 July 9, News received by Mrs. Rebecca Hendricks of the death of Mrs. Jane Marks formerly Miss Barham. Died, June 24 1827, in childbed after giving birth. to a son who is living.
- 1827 July 10, Jacob V. Gomez, my adopted son, bound to Mr. Grove Goodrich to learn the trade of Goldbeater until he is 21 years; he was born March 16, 1811.
- 1827, June 28, Mrs. Charlotte Sasportas arrived here from France. 1829, Wednday, Febry 18, arrived her son Augustus Sasportas from Bordeaux, France.

1830, April 1st, Thursday morning between 3 & 4 oclock, Died Mr. Moses Lopez, a cousin of my dear wife, he was buried at N. Port, Rhode Island, on Friday afternoon between the hours of 4 & 5 oclock alongside of his brother. I and my brother in law, Mr. Saml. Lopez, went with him there and had him interred according to his request.

1829, Novbr. 5, Died Mrs Judith Lopez,<sup>1</sup> wife of my brother in law Mr. Saml. Lopez, it was occasioned by a fall from a stepladder on which she was standing by a window, she fell from it and struck her head against the stone step; was taken up as dead and died 2 hours afterward—her scull was fractured. She was 52 years old. She was buried in the Burial Ground No 3 on Sunday, Nov. 8, in the West Corner.

(She was the first person buried in this new place. The grave was dug or partly so by a *Cohen*,\* Lewis I. Cohen by name; on the same day was buried in the same place Mrs. Rebecca Levy,<sup>2</sup> wife of Soln. Levy, 65 years old. Her grave was also partly dug by the aforesaid *Cohen*.)

1828 October 15, Died my nephew Lewis Gomez, the son of A. L. Gomez. It was supposed he was poisoned by something he had eaten and it afterwards turned into a dropsy which terminated his existence in the sixth year of his age. May his (I trust innocent & pure) soul be with its God.  
Buried in *Beth Haim* \* Oliver Street.

1828, August 14, My Cousin, Mr. Benjamin Gomez died. He was taken sick on the Thursday previous with what the Doctor called the Deague Fever but I considered to be the Typhus. He had been attacked once or twice before with Paralysis but he appeared to have got quite recovered. Such is the uncertainty of life that "when we are in life we are in death"—and all we have to do is to submit to the dispensation of Him who maketh darkness his pavilion. May peace be to his manes and may his soul be in everlasting bliss is my sincere prayer. He was buried in the Chatham Street Burial Ground about 7 oclock of same day and for which \$250 was paid as the fine as usual in such cases.

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<sup>1</sup> [Mrs. Lopez was the daughter of Moses M. Seixas of Newport.]

<sup>2</sup> [Mrs. Levy was a daughter of Uriah Hendricks.]

On Monday the 18<sup>th</sup> August the following appeared in *The Enquirer*, edited by M. M. Noah, Esqr.

"On the 14<sup>th</sup> after a short illness Mr. Benjamin Gomez in the 59<sup>th</sup> year of his age. His ancestors were among the oldest & most respectable inhabitants of this city and they were all with himself distinguished for integrity and correct deportment through life."

I wrote the following which I feel confident he deserved:

He has the debt of nature paid,  
In the grave I've seen him laid;  
Fifty-nine years was just his age,  
I therefore mark it on this page.

He was good to everyone.  
He finished life as he begun.  
In friendship, honor, and being just  
In God alone he placed his trust.

As a husband, father, friend,  
None were superior, you may depend  
In all his actions—He was the same  
Which has procured him a good name.

1826, May 29, Died my second cousin, Moses Mordecai Gomez, & was buried Tuesday afternoon in the Burial Ground in Chatham Street at an expense of \$250 fine according to law. He was the oldest native of our Congregation, 82 years old. He was buried next to Miss Hetty Levy.

1822, Nov. 22, Died my brother in law, Joseph Lopez, son of Aaron Lopez of New Port. Buried Beth Haim Chatham Square next to Moses Judah, aged 68 yrs.

1823, Janry. 10, Died my Brother in law Abraham Rodriques Riveira of a fit of apoplexy. He laid 14 hours perfectly insensible; aged 60 years, 1 month. Buried in Beth Haim, Chatham Square, next to Joseph of Aaron Lopez.

1821, March 5, Died Miss Sarah Hendricks, aged 50 years, who was unfortunately for many years a maniac.

1822, March 18, Died Jacob Lopez of Newport Rhode Island. He died at Newport, aged 71 years.

1823, May 23, Died, Miss Sarah Reveira, daughter of Abraham R. & Hannah Riveira, aged 32 years, buried in Chatham Square Beth Haim.

1820, Novbr. 4, Died, Hannah the widow of the late Jacob Rodriguez Riveira, in the advanced age of nearly 100 years. Buried in Beth Haim in Chatham Square. She was grandmother to Mrs. Abby Gomez, wife of Isaac Gomez jr.

1818, April, Died Moses Laper, Laher, or Lancer or Lopez (name very indistinct) of Philadelphia. This is the man who injured me. May he be more happy in the next world than he made me in this. He strove all in his power for my ruin and was a great injury to me. God forgive him.

1822 Sep 27 Memorandum. News arrived here from the South, both from Charleston as well as from Georgetown, that on 27th of September 1822, there was a most tremendous hurricane which proved very destructive to the lives and property of numbers too shocking to enumerate and my feelings were truly wretched as I could not know the fate of my daughter who was there with her husband & three children, and that uneasiness existed till Sunday 20th October, when I was blessed with a letter announcing their safety for which I cannot be thankful enough to the Almighty for preserving them from the jaws of Death. [Here follows an extract of a letter from my daughter to her sister Mary Ann—October 1 1822:]

Offer up your prayers & thanks my beloved sister to Almighty God who has pleased to spare me from the gulph of death that I may once more address you and inform you of our perilous situation on the night of the 27<sup>th</sup>, that awful night, never to be erased from my memory. O God, my heart sinks within me when I am about to relate to you the dreadful scene I witnessed. We were awake about 11 oclock Friday night by the wind blowing a tremendous gale. I cannot say I was much alarmed at first, but it began to increase when Mr. Joseph called to us from his apartment and said we had better come and be in the body of the house as he thought it much safer. Accordingly I dressed myself & children & with Emanuel, Isabella & Jane and went into his house. By this time the wind had increased to a tremendous highth, attended by torrents of rain which left not a dry spot on the floor. Mrs. Solomons who lived next door was obliged to seek refuge from the storm with 7 helpless children to take shelter

with us. She had to wade up to her waste in water as the tide was in her house and all her furniture floating. We all assembled in the corner of the room there to await momentarily our fate, which we thought was to be crushed to death, by the falling of the house which was creaking in every direction. Judge then, my beloved sister, the horror of our situation; large pieces of timber flying in the air, the water up to our floor so that it was impossible to fly for safety and we were obliged to sit from eleven till daylight with the water up to our ancles expecting every moment to be numbred with the dead, when it pleased God in his infinite mercies to shift the wind, and it began to abate. But what was the scene of horror which presented itself to our view when we opened the door! Oh God! My blood chills when I think of it,—Fathers looking for their children and children for their fathers, houses laying prostrate, the Island strewed with timbers &ca.

Judge, reader, what must have been their situation. This letter also mentions the loss of Doctor Myers and all his family and that the body of Mr. Myers was found 14 miles distant and that there was not so much of the Doctor's house left as to show where it stood.

The following letter I wrote to the Marquis Lafayette.

NEW YORK Septbr. 8<sup>th</sup> 1824.

Genl. Lafayette.

Respected Friend.

Having done myself the honour of paying to you my personal Respects the day after your arrival, permit me now to say, my Dear Sir, that God has blessed me with a grandson and during your absence to the Eastward I have, with permission of my children, its parents, taken the liberty of honouring him by adding the name of Lafayette to that which its parents have thought proper to give it, which is Gomez. Therefore the little cherub stands named Gomez Lafayette Emanuel. In taking this liberty I trust I have not intruded, and have to hope the little stranger will inherit your virtues & goodness. You herewith have, Dear Sir, a book of my Selections, be pleased to honor me with its acceptance. Altho' of trifling importance in itself, yet I hope it may serve as a memento of friendship of the Gomez family toward you and yours.

I have the honor to be, with sentiments of high consideration,  
Respected Sir,

Yr. Very Obedt. Ser<sup>vt</sup>

ISAAC GOMEZ JUNR.



1824, August 15, Lafayette arrived and went to Staten Island to the Vice President.

“ 16, “ came to the city.

“ 17, Mr. Gomez introduced by Alderman Wyckoff in the City Hall.

1825, July 14, Lafayette left New York for Washington.

Septbr. 8, “ left Washington to return to Europe in the U. S. Ship of the line *Brandywine*.

October 5 La Fayette arrived in France.

1826, June 17, Corner Stone laid of the new theatre in the Bowery (on the spot where the old Bullshead tavern used to be) by Phillip Hone Esq., Mayor of the city. The property costs \$105000 and runs from the Bowery to Elizabeth Street.

1821, January 25. Extremely cold weather. The North River frozen over. Thousands of people crossed backward & forward on the ice & loads of wood &c were brought from Jersey to this city. (Such has not happened since 1780, 41 years ago.) The North River was measured in a direct line from Cortland Street wharf to Pauls Hook and proved to be one mile lacking one foot equal to 5279 feet.

1808, March 5, My nephew Lewis Mordecai Gomez was minyan (or 13 years old). He read a portion in the Sepher (or Five Books of Moses) and the Haphtorah or a portion of the Prophets.

1808, May 8, { This day I was Godfather to my nephew Aaron Lopez, aged 5 months & 18 days, son of my brother in law Samuel Lopez & Judith his wife. They brought the child from Newport, Rhode Island, for the express purpose of having him circumcised. The moel was Mr. Seixas, our Hazan, his godmother my dear wife. The operation was performed in my dr mother's room in my house. God make him a good ornament to Society and a dutiful Servant to his Holy will, Amen.

1809, Janry. 20, { Died Rachel Louise, daughter of my cousin Benjn. Gomez, 4 yrs. 5 mos. old. Buried 4 oclock in the afternoon.

1816, July 2. Mr Gershom Seixas our Hazan or Reader departed this life 71 years old. He served the Jewish Congregation of this

City as Hazan near 50 years and was a respectable man. He was buried in the 3<sup>d</sup> at about 9 oclock in the morning.

1813, Febry. 28, { Died Mrs. Rebecca Gomez, late of Barbadoes,  
of a lingering illness and was buried under my  
direction on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> of March in Beth  
Hayim.

1817, Febry. 7, Born, Frances daughter of my friend Jane Marks  
wife of D<sup>r</sup> Elias Marks (their first child). She died on the 15<sup>th</sup>  
Septbr 1817.

1817, Thursday, { My daughter Sarah Emanuel, her husband and  
Nov. 13, { daughter Flora, left New York for Georgetown,  
So C., in the Sloop *George*, Captn Eldridge.

1822, Augt. 7. This night at about Eleven oclock died my Hond.  
mother, Mrs. Esther Gomez, being 83 years of age, as she was born  
in the Island of Barbadoes on the 8th of August 1739. In the death  
of this good woman I have lost a parent, friend and companion.  
She fulfilled the stations of child, parent, mistress & friend with  
that strict rectitude of principle that entitles her memory to lasting  
respect. May her soul enjoy the felicity of an angel before the  
throne of her God whom she at all times worshiped with sincerity.  
Her remains were interd in the Jewish Burial Ground in Chatham  
Street and lies next to the grave of Mr Jacob Hart. She was  
interred between the hours of five and six in the afternoon of the  
8<sup>th</sup> of August on Thursday corresponding to the Hebrew month of  
Ab the [21st] day.

1820, Janry. 27, Born Rachel Louisa, daughter of Saml L. M. and  
Maria Peixotto (at Saugatuck, Connecticut).

1821, Augt. 15, Born Esther or Hetty, daughter of Saml L. M. and  
Maria Peixotto.

1822, November 22, Born Rebecca, daughter of Saml L. M. and  
Maria Peixotto.

[B. IV, pp. 65-88]

1820, Wednesday, March 22. This afternoon Mr. Moses L. M.  
Peixotto was chosen Hazan or Reader of the Esnoga or Synagogue  
by a considerable majority of votes during good behaviour at the  
salary of twelve hundred dollars p<sup>r</sup> annum and the Parsonage  
House; when I was called on for my vote, I stated that if what

I should say could stand on record, then I would say Twelve hundred dollars and the house, provided the circumstances of the Congregation were sufficiently adequate to meet such a sum, and as I was overruled in my wish of having it recorded, I then voted for Seven hundred & fifty Dollars.

I hope, he may live in health for many happy years to enjoy the appointment and that the Congregation may be able to pay him the sum allotted. I went on the Friday evening following to hear him perform for the first time after his appointment as I have a great respect for him and his family. . . .

Tuesday, Aug. 15, 1826. John I. Hart & Trustees of Cong<sup>n</sup>. Bnay Jeshurun bought at auction in the Tontine Coffee House the Church & ground in Elm Street formerly belonging to the colored people for which they paid \$8100 of which \$5000 can remain on mortgage for a number of years. Mr. Dedirick was auctioneer, since which I am informed that Mr. Harmon Hendricks has taken the mortgage at one per cent interest for 5 years.

The above-mentioned Congregation converted this Church into a Synagogue and dedicated it to the worship of Almighty God this 30<sup>th</sup> day of June 1827. It was an elegant building, the service was impressive. The oration was delivered by Master Henry Hendricks, Son of my friend Harmon Hendricks, Esqr. May this Congregation enjoy this place of worship and may they at all times be happy is my sincere wish.

1829, January 18<sup>th</sup>, Sunday. This being the 1st anniversary of the Society for the Education of Poor Children and Relief of Indigent Persons of the Jewish Persuasion, the same was celebrated and a discourse on the occasion was deliver'd by Mr. Myer Moses a member, which did honor to his head and heart. The whole of the ceremony was grand and impressive, a large assemblage was in the Synagogue and a Collection was made to the amount of near four hundred Dollars for the benefit of this benevolent institution.

In an item heading the list of deaths in the Congregation from 1816 to 1831 Mr. Isaac Gomez says there were 121 deaths in the last 15 years making an average of 8 in every year.

[B. V, pp. 271-73]

## Death &amp; Funeral of Rev. M. L. M. Peixotto.

Mr. Isaac Gomez thus describes this lamentable event in his family Bible in Possession of Mrs. Mordecai Solomons.

1828. My friend Moses Levy Maduro Peixotto, Hazan or Reader of our Esnoga, died on the Sixteenth July, Wednesday, at Twelve o'clock at night of a lingering complaint. I first got his acquaintance in Hamburg thirty-one years ago, and when he arrived in this country my house was the first one he came to and we have been on good terms ever since. May his soul rest in peace. He was buried on Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> of July at 5 o'clock in the afternoon in the Chatham Street Burial place, as Mr. H. Hendricks sent a check to the Trustees to pay the fine on that occasion. His remains were carried down to the Esnoga on Thursday evening and deposited in the Trustees Room and at 3 o'clock (Friday afternoon) the Esnoga was opened, and was shrouded in black. Appropriate prayers were read. After this the corpse was carried seven times around the Esnoga (Outside) each time by different bearers. The seventh time was by Mr. H. Hendricks, myself, Mr. Jacob Levy and Mr. Gomperts, who after carrying him round carried him to the Hearse by which it was bourn to the ground accompanied by a numerous train of friends, where he was, as before stated, deposited.

[The following is in red ink.] From Congregational Record Book, Vol. 1, p. 133. Mr. Peixotto was born in the Island of Curaçao 1767 Febry 11. Elected Hazan 1820, March 23. He left a widow & 6 children, of whom one resided at Curaçao & the remainder in New York. He died in the 62<sup>nd</sup> year of his age & the 9<sup>th</sup> year of his ministry and was buried in the *Beth Haim* \* in Chatham Street, the fine or penalty having been paid by his friend Harmon Hendricks Esqr., viz \$250.

[B. V, pp. 274-75]

[The following is written on a slip of paper pasted in the book:]

Dr. D<sup>r</sup>. L. M. Peixotto in his Discourse before "The Society for the Education of Orphan Children and Relief of Indigent Persons" on its 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary 1830. Speaking of the duty of the Expositor of the Scriptures which "in this country has been hitherto only performed at intervals", adds a note H. as addenda at the close of the Discourse published by order of the Society, viz: "Shall I be pardoned if I allude, in this place, to the truly pious and laudable

efforts made by my late respected father Rev. M. L. M. Peixotto, *may he rest in peace*,\* to overcome the difficulties of a foreign language in his advanced life, with the single intention of maintaining untouched and pure the religion of his ancestors. Occasional Discourses on moral and Religious Subjects were composed with a facility derived in part from a familiar acquaintance with the language of the Scriptures and from native strength of intellect; but an irrepressible enthusiasm for the cause in which he labored had by far the greater share."

(First I ever saw or heard that *Hazan* \* Peixotto ever delivered an English discourse. J. J. L.). . . .

[B. V, p. 274]

1824, Aug<sup>t</sup>. 11, John Hart, aged 30 and Raphael Hart, aged 24, two brothers, Strangers in the city, committed suicide by shooting themselves with pistols at their lodgings in Nassau Street near Wall Street. Mr. I. Gomez thus bewails this melancholy occurrence:

Poor fellows, I feel for them, as they visited my house and behaved like gentlemen during visits so made, and they had visited my house about two hours before the fatal act was performed.

They were buried in Beth Haim Greenwich, they were found dead in their room having shot themselves.—From Record Book, p. 99.

[B. V, pp. 275-76]

[The following items are taken from the Gomez Bible above mentioned:]

1822, May 2. Died Elias Henriques Valentine, the son of our pre. Shamas, I understand he was buried in one corner of the Burial Ground at Greenwich as he did not, I am informed, behave as properly as he should have done. . . .

[B. V, p. 276]

1823, June 11, Wednesday. Died Mr. Levy Solomons of Albany, Buried at Greenwich, being the first after the new law. (This does not agree with the Record Book, p. 89, where already in January 31, 1823, Abm. S. Schoyer, a native of Amsterdam, is registered as interred in Beth Haim Shenee, Greenwich, next to Gitlah bat Jacob—and others before. J. J. L.)

[B. V, p. 276]

1816, Augt. 8. Reported Aaron Moses of London. Buried in Beth Haim Shenee. (A case of suicide. Record Book, p. 68 J. J. L.)

[B. V, p. 277]

1817, March 9 or 19<sup>1</sup> Died Revd Emanuel Carvalho of Philadelphia, aged 47 yrs.

[B. V, p. 277]

### 1825 June 22 A List of the names of our Congregation

Moses Gomez	Harmon Hendricks	Matthew Gomez
Isaac Gomez Junr	Uriah "	Moses E Gomez
Benj Gomez	Henry "	Soln Isaacs
Aaron L Gomez	Soln Levy	Naphtaly Judah
Moses L M Peixotto	Uriah H "	Saml "
Daniel "		
Samuel "	Isaac "	Benjn S "
Aaron Judah	Angel Jacobs	
Saml B H Judah	Moses Phillips	
Moses L Moses	Moses Leon	
Joshua Moses	Tob Tobias	
David Moses	S Tobias	
Hyman Moses	Bernard Hart	
Cary Judah	Wm Warner	
Isaac Brandon	Joseph L Hays	
Joseph Isaacs	Jacob Levy <sup>2</sup>	
Solomon Seixas	Myer Levy	
Daniel "	Jacob Levy <sup>2</sup>	
Aaron "	Joseph L Josepchs	
Benjn "	Solomon Josepchs	
Moses "	Seixas Nathan	
Naphtaly Phillips	Gomperts S Gomperts	
Joshua "	Joseph Jacobs	
Aaron "	Aaron Josepchs	
Mordecai Noah	Alexander Rudin	
Joel Hart	Barnet	
David "	Barnet	
Judah Zuntz	Nathan	
Lipman Lazarus	Sampson Isaacks	
Lion Hart	Jacob Cohen	

<sup>1</sup> In family Register 20,—J. J. L.

<sup>2</sup> Probably 2 different persons.

Abm Cohen	Barnard Judah	Joshua Cantor
Mark Solomon	Aaron	Simeon Levy
D H Valentine	John	Solomons
Valentine	Edward	B I Phillips
I B Kurshet	Abm Michael	Myer Moses
Haym Salomon	Jackson	Mont Moses
Rowlan Cromline	Jackson	B B Phillips
Cromline	Jackson	
Davis	Lewis Emanuel	The four last are written in a differ- ent hand writing and evidently added at a later date J J L
Davis	Nathan Emanuel	
John Davis	Abm Jacobs	
Simon Myers	Isaac Abrahams	
Jacob Abrahams	Haym Abrahams	
Joseph Hart	Abrahams	
Aaron Soria	Abraham Levy	
Isaac Soria	Monsieur Morange	
John Hart	Do Morange	
M Michal	Isaac Moses	
Cother Cohen	Joseph Dreyfous	
Pike	Abm Rusle	
Moses Cohen	Joseph Henriques	
Ezekiels	David Henriques	

[B. V, pp. 277-79]

1828, Augt 3. Last week Mr. Isaac Seixas was appointed Hazan by the Trustees occasioned by the death of Mr. Peixotto. I understand he is to have \$600 per annum and the parsonage house during pleasure.

[B. V, p. 280]

Libel Case of S. B. H. Judah. The following memorandum is made with a view to guard my children from permitting themselves from evilspeaking or evildoing as the consequences are serious.

1823, Sept. 8. This day being Monday, came on the trial of Samuel B. H. Judah, son of Benjamin S. Judah, in the Court of Sessions, Present Mr. Richard Riker, Recorder & Three other Judges. It was for writing and publishing a libelous book called "Gotham and the Gothamites", taking the character of a number of citizens to pieces and ridicule. The public prosecutor Mr. Maxwell selected out four of these libels for his purpose; namely one against

Mr. Jonas Mapes, one against Dr. Moore, a minister, one against Dr. Francis, a physician, and one against Mr. Gardner, a lawyer, on which he was found guilty by the Jury who remained out but five minutes. The writing & publishing was clearly proved, but before the trial commenced, his council Messrs. Van Wike Tray, Bogardus & ca strove all in their power to get the trial put off to a future day which the Court overruled, making his reason, that if such was granted to one, every person who would be brought for trial would expect the same as if the Supreme Court had granted a *Susarara*,<sup>1</sup> there had been full time for its appearance. 1823, Saturday, August 13. This day being Sentence day in the Session Court, Mr. S. B. H. Judah was called for that purpose, when his Council Mr Bogardus used great ingenuity to get him rid of it but to no effect. He addressed the Court himself at some length, which I wish he had let alone as it only tended to irritate, insomuch that the public prosecutor rose to stop him, but the Court indulged him till he was done, when in a lengthy and elegant manner the recorder addressed him, showing where the libels lay and that they were of a high colour and after having given him good advice and a severe reprimand, fined him Four hundred Dollars and to stand committed until paid, stating the reasons why the imprisonment of his person was not the sentence was owing to a certificate of Dr. Hamersly proving that he, Mr. S. B. H. Judah, was plagued and subject to a pulmonary affection of the Lungs, which was sworn to by his father (Mr. B. S. Judah). Under those conditions the Recorder said the Court thought it would be a cruelty to imprison, and therefore imposed the fine as aforestated. 1823, Oct. 23. S. B. H. Judah came out of Bridewell having been there four weeks & five days and came out by pardon from the Governor.<sup>2</sup>

[B. V, pp. 280-83]

1825, Janry. 22, Friday. The Synagogue in Philadelphia Consecrated, which was according to accounts solemn and agreeable to a numerous audience. Mr. Peixotto went on and assisted the Hazan there, whose name is Mr. Keese, he is from Barbadoes and last from St. Thomas.

[B. V, p. 283]

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<sup>1</sup> Probably "Certiorari" J. J. L.

<sup>2</sup> ["Gotham and the Gothamites" created a great sensation in New York in its day and is mentioned in practically every account of early American literature.]



From the News Paper, 1829, January 28<sup>th</sup>. Married in St. Johns Church by the Revd. Mr. Berrian, Mr. Stephen C. Richard to Miss Maria Judah, daughter of Mr. Benj<sup>a</sup>. S. Judah.

[B. V, p. 284]

Mr. Gomez kept a Registry of the deaths in the Congregation from 1816 July 2, to 1831 October 7. . . .

[B. V, p. 284]

ITEMS RELATING TO THE HAYS<sup>1</sup> FAMILY, NEW YORK.

BENJAMIN ETTING HAYS AND ANCESTRY.

From *The Occident & [American] Jewish Advocate*, monthly periodical. Isaac Leaser, Editor—October 1858.

Page 363. Obituary. Signed by J. S. C. supposed to stand for Jacob Solis Cohen of Philadelphia. Not copied. [See Dr. Solomon Solis Cohen, *Publications*, No. 2, pp. 63-72.]

Description of various old documents of the Estate of Michael, David and Benj<sup>n</sup>: E. Hays of West Chester County—in possession of D<sup>d</sup> Hays, son of B. E. Hays.

1755  
Febry 15.

Jeremiah Thornton & John Price of Dutches County, Province of New York, convey to Abm. Wing and Henry Davis Jun<sup>r</sup>. of same place "a certain tract of land" "in the lot formerly called No 3", "formerly belonging to Robert Livingston, now surrendered to Phillip Philipse", for £18 N. Y. currency.

1755  
11<sup>th</sup> month 24<sup>th</sup>  
28<sup>th</sup> year of  
Reign of  
George II

Jonathan Hoag, Blacksmith, in Oblong, Dutches County, Province of New York, conveys to Michael Hays of same place, Shop-keeper, certain tract or piece of land in "ye Oblong being part of ye lott No 26 of ye Oblong" 20 acres 51 rods for £80. N. Y. currency.

1758  
May 13

Joseph Townsend of North Castle, West Chester County, Province of New York, Weaver, conveys to Samuel Hallock of same place "all that farm of land that I now live on in North Castle that I bought of Dan<sup>l</sup>. Totten" 50 acres more or less. for £130 N. Y. Currency.

1759  
Janry 15

Ebenezer Preston of the Oblong, Dutchess County, in the Province of N. Y. Cordwainer conveys to David Hays Jun<sup>r</sup>: of same place Merchant one certain messuage or tract of land in the Oblong county & province aforesaid one part of lot 39 and other part of lot 41 by estimation 72 acres 52 rods. for £80. N. Y. Currency.

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<sup>1</sup> [For details concerning members of this family, see Index volume of the *Publications*.]

- 1760  
Dec 20 Daniel Totten of North Castle, West Chester County, Province of New York, Blacksmith, conveys to Michael Hays of same place, Marchant, a certain peace of Land in North Castle in a certain pattent of land commonly called Tourneurs<sup>1</sup> west pattent by estimation 30 acres, and also a right of land of 30 acres within said pattent which I bought of Thomes Watters £140. N. Y. Curr.
- 1761  
Oct 7 Penal Bond of Henry Peers Jun<sup>r</sup> and Michael Hays of Township North Castle, West Chester County, in Province of New York, to Sam<sup>l</sup>. Haight of Phillipsburgh of same place, for £50 N. Y. Currency.
- 1764  
Apl 13 Absalom Smith of North Castle, West Chester County, Province of New-York, Sadler, conveys to Michael Hays of same place all that farm of land which I bought of Joseph Townsend in North Castle in Tourneurs West pattent so called in March 1761. 33¾ acres for £200 N. Y. currency.
- 1765  
Febry 19  
5<sup>th</sup> year of  
His Majesty's  
Reign Christopher Francis of North Castle, Blacksmith, conveys to Michael Hays, Marchant, of same place all that & certaine house, shop & barne & lands in North Castle in Tourneurs West pattent so called. 1 acre for £95. N. Y. Currency. Sold with privilege to be redeemed before 1<sup>st</sup> Oct. 1785.  
Endorsed: "Mortgage deed".
- 1767  
July 19 Daniel Totten of the manor of Cortlandt, West Chester County, Province of New York, Blacksmith, conveys to Michael Hays of North Castle, marchant, a certain peace of land and Madow within the West pattent of North Castle so called bounded in part by land of Gershom Miers 12 acres & 15 square rods for £96.15.
- 1775  
Apl. 7 Peter totten of North Cassel, West Chester County, Province of New York, Yeoman, conveys to Michael hais, of same place, Yeoman "all that my farm and parsel of land seituat by and being in the West pattent of North Cassel in the County of West Chester & province of New York" 31¼ acres for £220 N. Y. Currency.
- 1774  
Nov. 3 Penal Bond of Thomas Devenport of North Castle, West Chester County, to Peter Totten of same place for £7.6.9 with interest. Penal sum if not paid in time £14.9.6.

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<sup>1</sup> Indistinct in the original.

- 1775  
May 15 Thomas Devenport of County of West Chester, Province of New York, Yeoman conveys, to Michael Hase (elsewhere Hayes) of North Castle County & province aforesaid "All that farm of land that I now have in North Castle so called" in part bounded by land of Mr Hays. 60 acres for £500 N. Y. Currency.
- 1781  
Janry. 8 Penal bond of Michael Hays of North Castle, County of West Chester, to Thomas Burling for £600, conditioned for payment of £300 with interest at 4pct if settled before July 10<sup>th</sup> 1781.
- 1784  
Sept. 10 Penal bond of Michael Hays & James Totten of West Chester County to Abm. Ogden Esqr., County of Essex, State of New Jersey, Attorney at Law, for £172. to be cancelled with payment of £86 if paid before Augt 3<sup>d</sup> 1785.
- Several receipts on the back of this bond.
- 1785  
Decbr. 22 Isaac Stoutenburgh and Phillip Van Cortlandt, commissioners of forfeitures for the Southern district of the State of New York, conveys to Michael Hays of West Chester County, farmer, the farm of land in the manor of Phillipsburgh, County of West Chester, "formerly possessed by Saml. Dean, forfeited to the people of the said State by the Attainder of Frederick Phillipse, late of the said County Esquire. 170 Acres for £871.5.". N. Y. Currency.
- 1786  
Janry. 2 Last Will and Testament of Michael Hays<sup>1</sup> of North Castle leaving all his land in Phillips manor to his brother David Hays,<sup>1</sup> Merchant, of Bedford. Probated 1799, May 27.
- 1793  
Mch. 19 Charles Craft of Township Mt. Pleasant, County of West Chester, Wheelmaker & farmer, and Jane his wife, conveys to Joseph Leggett of same place, farmer & merchant, all that certain farm of land "formerly called in the manor of Phillipsburgh, now the town of Mount Pleasant, County of West Chester, State of N. Y. 38½ acres for £90.5." On the back of this deed is written "For Value recd. of Michal I assign over the written to s<sup>d</sup>. Hays." Signed Joseph Leggett dated the 24<sup>th</sup> of 3<sup>d</sup> Month 1794.
- 1793  
Apl. 2 One Syshorus West of Beekmans Precinct, County of Duchess, Province of New York, Sailor, conveys to Mical Hays of said precinct, trader, "a peace of land with a dwelling house thereon" signed "One Syshorus West. for £26 York money."

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<sup>1</sup> [See Dr. Solomon Solis Cohen, *Publications*, No. 2, pp. 63-72.]

- 1795  
March 17      Mary Devenport widow of Thomas Devenport of New Castle, West Chester County, N. Y. for £8 acquits Michael Hays of Mount Pleasant of his right of thirds or dowery in certain farm or tract of land in town, county, State aforesaid. The farm now in possession of Abraham Underhill, 60 acres or less.
- 1796  
Apl. 6      Michael Hays of Mount Pleasant, Yeoman, conveys to David Hays of Mount Pleasant, Yeoman, Farm on the Crompon Road in Mount Pleasant Township. West Chester County—63 acres for £250.
- 1811  
March 27      Last Will and Testatment of David Hays.
- 1812  
Nov. 2      Probate of above will.
- 1813  
April 9      Note of Ebenezer Scofield to Uncle Benjamin E. Hays for \$40. Only 1 years interest paid.
- 1813  
October 20      Jacob Hays of New York, High Constable. Benjn. Etting Hays of Mount Pleasant, West Chester County, farmer, & Charity Solis with her husband Jacob Solis, of the last named place, Farmer. (three first named Executors and Executrix of the Estate of the late David Hays) convey to John L. Morton of New York, Gentleman, a portion of the farm in Mount Pleasant, West Chester County, containing 24 acres, 3 roods & 14 perches for \$1018.71. D<sup>a</sup> Hays by his will of March 27<sup>th</sup>, 1811, after giving to Ben. E. Hays, his son, certain part of his farm whereon the Testator then resided, ordered the residue to be sold of the conveyance of which this is a memorandum.
- 1813  
Oct. 21      John L. Morton of New York conveys to Ben. Etting Hays of Mount Pleasant, County West Chester, part of farm whereon D<sup>a</sup>. Hays resided at M<sup>t</sup> Pleasant at the time of his death and whereof he died Seized, 24 Acres. 3 rods with tenements & ca. for \$1018.71. This seems to be the portion of the farm purchased by J. L. Morton the day previous.
- 1816  
Janry. 9      Joseph Romer of Mount Pleasant, West Chester County, New York, and Sally his wife, conveys to Benj<sup>n</sup>. Etting Hays of town, County & State aforesaid, a piece or trail of land in the above place—34 perches for \$17.50.  
In the deed "Romour" Signed "Romer".

1819  
Ap<sup>l</sup>. 19

Gerard Brown & Jane his wife of Mt. Pleasant, West Chester County, N. Y., convey to James Fish of New Castle, County & State aforesaid, certain piece of land in the town of M<sup>t</sup>. Pleasant 13 acres, 2 rods and 13 perches, with privilege to James Homer & Elliot Hobby to pass & repass through said premises.

1786  
Jan<sup>ry</sup>. 2

Last will & Testament of Michael Hays.

In the name of God, Amen. I, Michael Hays of North Castle in the County of West Chester and in the State of New York, Yeoman; In perfect Helth of body and of perfect mind and memory, thanks be given unto God. Caling unto Mind the mortality of my body and Knowing that it is apointed for all men once to die, do make and ordain this my Will and Testament, that is to say principaly and first of all: I give and recomend my Soul unto the Hands of God Almighty, that gave it me, and my body to the earth to be buried in a decent maner at the discrition of my executor, nothing doubting I shall receive the same again by the mighty power of God, and as touching such worldly estate where-with it hath pleased God to bless me with in this life I give, devise and dispose of the same in the folowing maner and form. First and last I give and bequeath unto David Hays of Bedford, Merchant, my dearly beloved Brother, in the same County and State above said, whome I likewise constitute make and ordain the Sole Executor of this my last Will and Testament, all and Singular all my real and personal Estate of what nature it may be found, all my lands lying in Phillipes Maner so called freely to enjoy and Possess, and I do utterly disalow, revoke and disalow all and every other former Testament Wills, Legacies, Bequests and Executors by me in any ways before named, wiled and Bequeathed. Ratifying and Confirming this and no other to be my last Will and Testament. In witness whereof I have thereunto set my hand and seal in North Castle this second day of January One thousand Seven hundred and Eightysix.

MICHAEL HAYS (L. S.)

Witness JOHN PEERS

MIRIAM PEERS JUN<sup>r</sup>:

Here follows the Certificate of proof of Phillip Bell, Surrogate, dated May 27<sup>th</sup> 1799—with separate letter of administration same date at the Town of Pelham, West Chester County.

Summary of Last Will and Testament of David Hays

"In the name of God, Amen. I, David Hays of the Town of Mount Pleasant, County of West Chester and State of New York, Yeoman, Being weak in body but in perfect sound mind and memory, thanks be given unto God, but calling to mind the mortality of men's body and knowing that it is appointed for all men to die, do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament, that is to say. First of all I give and commend to the earth from whence it was taken to be buried in a decent manner at the direction of my Executors nothing doubting I shall receive it again by the mighty power of God. And touching such worldly Estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me in this life I give and dispose of it in manner and form following, that is to say."

He distributes his estate among his sons, Benjamin Etten (*sic*) Hays, Moses Hays, his daughter Rachel Myers, his son Jacob Hays, his grandchildren Sally Myres, Abigail Myres, Myres Myres and Abraham Myres, children of his deceased daughter, Hannah Myres; to his grandchildren Fanny Isaacs, David Isaacs, and Hays Isaacs, children of his daughter, Hetty Isaacs, deceased; to his daughters, Charity and Abigail.

"In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the twenty seventh day of March in the year 1811.

DAVID HAYS L. S.

Signed and Sealed in the presence of

GEORGE COMB

ABRAHAM SEE

JOHN GOODHART JUN<sup>R</sup>."

[Here follows the certificate of proof by Ezra Lockwood, Surrogate, dated Nov. 2, 1812, with a separate letter of administration same date at Poundridge, County of West Chester.]

An Inventory of the Goods, Chattels & Effect belonging to the Estate of David Hays of the Township of Mount Pleasant, Deceased. Taken for the Executors & Executrix of said Estate. Amount given as \$3658.98. Dated this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of Nov<sup>r</sup> 1812.

6 Cows @ \$15	\$90
1 Bull	8
1 Colt	12.50
1 Yoke Oxen	50
1 year old heifer	8

3 Calves @ \$3.50	\$10.50
1 fat Steer	18
2 fat cows @ \$18	36
1 Bay Horse	10
$\frac{1}{2}$ field Rye	25
$\frac{1}{2}$ field Corn	15
1 field Corn	15
1 field Wheat	15
3 Plows & 1 Harrow	2
1 fled	.50
1 Chain & Clives	
1 Lott Buckwheat	17.50
1 Windfan	12
3 pitch forks	.36
2 Scoops	.12 $\frac{1}{2}$
10 Sheep @ \$1	10
1 Lott fowls	2
4 Turkeys	1.50
1 Cornfan	.12 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 Shovel & spade	1
2 Rakes	.12 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 Lott wheat in the Sheaf	15
1 Lott Rye D <sup>o</sup>	15
1 Lott Oats D <sup>o</sup>	10
1 Lot Hay in the Barn	10
8 Staks Hay @ \$5	40
1 Mare & yearling Colt	14
1 Ox Yoke	.25
1 Sleigh	2
Plaster & Tub	.50
1 Lot Flax	2
5 Boards	1
4 Wheels	1.50
14 Hogs @ \$5	70
1 Lot old chains	.50
1 Ton of plaster	15.75
Geers & clives	.50
4 axes & 2 augers	.50
1 Lot old iron	.25
1 Lot of Wheat	2
Butle & wedge	.37 $\frac{1}{2}$



1 Lot of Potatoes	\$6
1 Lot old Casks	2
1 Waggon & Harness	25
1 old Saddle	.12½
7 Bedsted & 5 Cords	1
4 feather beds	25
4 pair Brass Candlesticks	1
1 Lot silver Plate	15
1 Lot Linnen	2
1 Side leather	1
1 Lot knives & fork	.50
1 Lot book	1
1 Lot Wool	2
2 Coffee mills	.25
1 Lot old chairs & chest	1
1 warming pan	.37½
Scales & weights	.12½
Wearing apparel	3
1 cherry table	1
8 black chairs	1.50
8 yellow chairs	1.50
1 old desk	.25
1 Teaboard	1
1 Lot Rice	.50
1 Lot Coffee	2
4 Looking Glasses	.50
1 Lot Crockery	2
1 Lot Kitchen furniture	5
1 Silver Watch	20
1 Hand Saw	.25
1 Flax Hatchel	.25
1 Large Scales & Weights	.25
25 lbs of Yarn	3
1 Black Girl	10
1 Black Woman	10
2 Tables	4
Cart	5
Bonds Notes &ca	
John Dean Bond & Mortgage	750
John See Bond	150

John See	Note	\$50
John Kipps	Bond	100
Tho <sup>s</sup> Pierce	Bond	250
Silas Partelow	Bond	50
Abm Braid & W <sup>m</sup> Forshay	Bond	200
Isaac Partelow & Silas Partelow	Bond	50
James Fisher & Gilbert Fisher	Bond	375
Edwd Wildey		62.50
Stephen Acker & E Scofield Jun <sup>r</sup>		75
Ebenezer Scofield Jun <sup>r</sup>		30
James Forshay	Note	125
John Yerk son of William	Bond	37.50
States Hammond & Isaac Hammond	Bond	375
Lambert Lambertson	Note	12.50
Lambert Lambertson	Note	25
		<hr/>
		\$3442.23½
Cash		216.75
		<hr/>
		\$3658.98½

Certificate of Exemption of Military duty, B. E. Hays.

This is to certify that Benj. Etting Hays is not fit for military duty on the account of having a lame ankle and fractured Cranium. Whom it may Concern this 19 day of June 1798.

SETH MILLER Surgen.

Agreement of B. E. Hays to permit Trustees to build a school house on his land.

Know all men by these presents that I, Benjamin E. Hays, of the Town of Mount Pleasant in the County of West Chester in the State of New York, have agreed with Henry Romer, Elliot Hobby and Joseph Romer, they being the present Trustees of the New School house in the upper part of the district No 7, that is to say that I, the said Benjamin E. Hays, do here grant permission unto the said Trustees to erect and set a school house on the South West corner of the new road, that is to say, the said house is to be a public School house for the full enjoyment and benefit of all the inhabitants of said district, without any discrimination whatsoever and for no other use, the said house and land than as above stated, otherwise this article is void and of no effect. . . .

Given under my hand and seal this day and date, November the  
Ninth One Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty Six

BENJAMIN E. HAYS.

Witness present

WRIGHT HOBBY JACOB S. SOLIS

Letter of Isaac Adolphus to "David Hays Merch<sup>t</sup>., Bedford"  
1772

Febry. 16

NEW YORK Feb<sup>y</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> 1772

Dear David

I hev noting to say only that we are all well thank God &  
hoping wen this coms to hand may find you in the same. I now  
Akwaunt you I p<sup>d</sup>. Mr Huffman out the seed Feb<sup>y</sup>. 4<sup>th</sup> 1772 thirty  
pound & Mr John Alsop out the butter the 5. on the Bond Ten  
pound there is four or 5 ferkins unsold yet but I Rekon the will  
go in thime Do<sup>1</sup> warry bad wheat is 7/7 & 7/8 corn 3/8 Oats  
2/2 ant<sup>2</sup> Says Cheece & Joynes me with frinds in ever kind Lov  
to you & los of Easter & the little blessing from your affect.

ISAAC ADOLPHUS

Certificate that B. E. Hays is qualified to act as *Shochet* \* &  
*Bodek* \*

MOUNT PLEASANT N Y Novbr 11<sup>th</sup> 1813

1813 } I do certify that Benjamin Etten Hays is duly qualified  
Nov<sup>r</sup> 11 } to kill any kind of clean Beasts or Fowls According to  
Law and that I have examined the said Benjamin Etten Hays,  
finding that his knowledge of the (*Shacheta*) of the (*Cuts*) and  
(*Bodecan*) for the Searching According to the Denim of them  
is so much to my Satisfaction, that I do give him leave to kill and  
that all the House of Israel may eat of his killing, and this is his  
certificate for the same, and that the said Benjamin Etten Hays  
has promised me that he will look over the said Denim once a  
month, to keep in memory the said Denim, and I who give this  
liberty have been myself examined by Jacob Abrams the Shoath  
of K. K. Shearith Israel in New York and received a Certificate  
from the said Jacob Abrams declaring my qualification of the  
Denim of *Shacheta* and *Badecan* and leave to kill according to  
them; therefore from this power I do give the same to Benjamin

---

<sup>1</sup> "Do" for "though"

<sup>2</sup> 3 words not intelligible

Etten Hays whom is an Israelite. I do give this from under  
 Hesvan 27<sup>th</sup> my hand and Seal  
 5575 [*sic*] *Jacob Sil* \* JACOB S. SOLIS Seal

Letter of Mrs. Hette Hays directed to (her son) "mr Michael Hays at New Cassel."

"NEW YORK WENS } This portion of  
 Dear Mikel we got } the letter  
 and just let you no } torn

tovek and trouble I meat with coun has nouthing to leve upon  
 abbe told me he brok at feladelfe and Charte is very poorle it was  
 abbe that sent for me so go ware i will i meat with troubel  
 Mooses is better tell Daved benne etten was broth down Monday  
 everything is very Dear So no more at present but I remain your  
 loven mother

HETTE HAYS.

Sell and a the rest of the family joins in love to you and David  
 and famile i should have rote to David but feal tiard pray dont  
 send the rest of the things for I dont know ware to put them I  
 pade 2 and sex pens carten for it pen so poor that i cant rit.

Letter of Benj<sup>n</sup>. Etting directed "To Mr David Hays Mercht at  
 Bedford, per Captn Mead "

1771

NEW YORK August 6<sup>th</sup> 1771

Dear David As Unkle Adolphus is out of Town I am to acquaint  
 you by his Desire that I Rece<sup>d</sup> your fav<sup>r</sup> p<sup>r</sup> Russel as also 41 Buss<sup>l</sup>  
 Corn which sold for 4/3 pr buss. £8.14.3 You'll receive p<sup>r</sup>. Capt<sup>n</sup>.  
 Mead 1 Hhd Molasses containing 110 Galls Nt at 1/10 1/2 £10.6.3  
 carting 2/ as unkle porposes keeping this Shabbos or next with  
 you shall refer to him for particulars and only add my love to  
 self sister and children

from your Affect. Brother

BENJ<sup>n</sup>. ETTING

p<sup>s</sup> Aunt Adolphus say you must take good care of her husband  
 and not let him fatigue himself. Your mother is here & begs you'll  
 Except her good wishes as also your family who are in good  
 Health.

Letter of Isaac Moses to Benjamin Etting about the disappear-  
 ance of his brother on his way South, dated February 27<sup>th</sup>, 1778.

Memo of Some receipts found among the old papers of the firm  
of Benj<sup>n</sup> & Moses Hays:

Date	From whom	Signed by	For what	Amount
1763 July 22	Benjn Hays	Andrew Hamersley	on account	£ 12
1763 " "	Benj <sup>n</sup> & Moses Hays	Benjn Ra. Jacobs		£ 2. 8
1763 Aug 17	Benjn & Moses Hays	Andrew Hamersley for	for a parcel	
		Rob. Ogden	of Leather	£ 12.14.
1763 July 20	Ben & Moses Hays	David Hays Jun <sup>r</sup>	on account	£ 35.
1763 " 21	Benjamin Hays	Nicholas Van Dorn	in full of	
			all aCounts	£ 3
1763 Sept 19	Benj <sup>n</sup> & Moses Hays	Isaac Roosevelt	in full	£ 5. 9
1763 Sept 20	Benj <sup>n</sup> & Moses Hays	James Breasted per	in full	£ 4.14. 6
		Simon Breasted		
1763 Sep 28	Ben <sup>n</sup> & Moses Hays	D <sup>d</sup> Hays Junr	on account	£ 10. 2
1763 Oct 11	Ben <sup>n</sup> & Moses Hays	Asher Myers	on account	£ 5. 0. 0
1763 Nov 8	Ben & Moses Hays	J Alsop	in part for Tea	£ 20. 0. 0
1763 Nov 8	Ben <sup>n</sup> & Moses Hays	Jacobus Montanye	on account	£ 5. 0. 0
1763 No 18	Ben & Moses Hays	Remsen & Van Alstyn	on account	£ 13.13. 0
1764 Feb 27	Ben & Moses Hays	Isaac Roosevelt	in full by the hand of David Hays Jun <sup>r</sup>	£ 8.18. 0
1764 Mch 2	Ben & Moses Hays	Asher Myers	on acct by D <sup>d</sup> Hays	£ 5. 0. 0
1764 Apl 25	Ben & Moses Hay	Daniel Torres	in full	£ 2. 2. 0
1764 Apl 25	Ben & Moses Hays	Andrew Hamersley for Joseph Pye		£ 5.14. 0
1764 Apl 25	Ben & Moses Hays	D <sup>d</sup> Paukorue	in full	£ 37. 3. 3
1764 July 13	Ben & Moses Hays	Corsa & Bull	in part for one hhd of Rum	£ 5. 0. 0
1764 Aug 6	Ben & Moses Hays	Isaac Roosevelt	in full	£ 5.16. 0
1764 Oct 8	Ben & Moses Hays	Anne De Sisme	on acct <sup>d</sup>	£ 20. 0. 0
1765 Jan'y 15	Ben & Moses Hays	Remsen & Van Alstyn	On acct (by D <sup>d</sup> Hays)	£ 20. 3. 0
1765 Jan'y 15	Ben & Moses Hays	Corsa & Bull	on acct (by D <sup>d</sup> Hays)	£ 29. 5. 0

Children & Grandchildren of D<sup>d</sup> Hays Junr., mention of  
whom is made in his last will.

Sons (1) Benjamin Etting Hays Moses Hays (2) Jacob Hays (3)  
Daughters Rachel Myers (4)

(5) Hannah Myers, her children Sally, Abigail, Myer &  
Abraham

(6) Hetty Isaacs her children, Fanny, David & Hays

(7) Charity [If this Charity is Charity wife of Isaac Adol-  
phus she died in N. Y. 1773 June 18 Old Record folio  
42. J. J. L.'s handwriting.]

(8) Abigail

(The following I traced from the Records of Cong<sup>n</sup> Shearith Israel—J. J. L.)

- (1) 5574=1814, March 23, Married to Sarah daughter of Ben<sup>a</sup>: Myers of N. Y.

1858, Augt. 13, Died at Pleasantville WCC.<sup>1</sup> 78 yr 9 mo

- (2) 1857 Oct 22 Died at Pleasantville W. C. C. 68 yrs. No contributor Trustees charged \$50 for burial

- (3) 1772 May 5. Born in Bedford, married out of the faith

- (4) 1765 Sep 17. Born at New Rochelle  
1804 Mch 25 Married to Benj<sup>n</sup>. Myers.

- (5) 1768 Apl 15 Born in N. Y.

(6. 7. 8.) No mention in the Congregational Record. Names of children of D<sup>a</sup> Hays Jr not mentioned in the will: Asher, Born Bedford 1775 Ap<sup>l</sup> 25 and Yitlah Born at Bedford 1778 March 11.

5524 Iyar 21 } Married by Rev. Joseph Jessurun Pinto D<sup>a</sup>. Hays  
1764 May 23 } Jun<sup>r</sup>. and Hetty Asser Etting.

1812 Oct. 18. Died at Mount Pleasant David Hays and bro<sup>t</sup>. to the City and buried in old B H.

1774 Sept 7 Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> day *Rosh Hashonah* \* Died in New York Isaac Adolphus.

[B. I, No. 58]

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<sup>1</sup> [The estate at Pleasantville is still in the possession of the Hays family, being owned at the present time by Mr. Daniel P. Hays.]

ITEMS RELATING TO THE MOSES<sup>1</sup> AND LEVY FAMILIES,  
NEW YORK.

Copy of a Masonic certificate in possession of Abm. R. Brandon Moses, grandson of Mr. Isaac Moses, written on parchment and by permission copied June 27<sup>th</sup>, 1869.

Grand Seal

*And the Darkness Comprehended it Not  
In the East a Place full of Light.  
Where Reigns Silence and Peace.*

We the Master, Wardens & Secretary of the Union Lodge of Free & accepted Masons at the City of New York in North America Assembled in due form & adorned with all our Honours Do hereby Certifie, Declare and Attest to all Men Enlightened & Spread upon the Face of the Earth that the Bearer hereof Isaac Moses having been properly Recommended was by us in our Lodge received as an Entered apprentice afterwards as a fellow Craft and in due time Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason & as such is admitted into and adopted of by any of the Fraternity to whome these Presents come.

Given under our hands and the Seal of our Lodge in the City of New York in North America in the Year of Masonry 3737 & in the year of our Lord 1767.

W. A. MALCOM Master

JOHN ADAM Secretary

JOHN YOUNG

[B. V, pp. 216-17]

Copy of a printed scrap, cut from an old newspaper, the property of Mr. A. R. B. Moses.

An Example from the Revolutionary Era.

From a file of the *Philadelphia National Gazette* for the year 1787, a correspondent has clipped the following paragraphs.

1780, June 17. At a critical period of the Revolutionary war, when there was great difficulty in procuring supplies for the American army and when there was great danger of a dissolution

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<sup>1</sup> [For details concerning members of these families, see Index volume of *Publications*.]

for want of provisions to keep it together, a number of patriotic gentlemen gave their bonds to the amount of about £260,000 Sterling in gold and silver for procuring them. The provisions were procured, the Army supplied and kept together, and as a consequence of this act of patriotism, our independence was achieved.

In order that the names of those choice spirits may not be forgotten we select the present occasion to hand them down to this generation.

Let their memories be cherished in the fondest recollection.

[Here follow the names of the various subscribers, with the amounts of their subscriptions. Among them is:]

Isaac Moses           £3,000

[B. V, pp. 247-50]

In a scrap from a newspaper of a later date, also the property of Mr. A. R. B. Moses, appears the following:

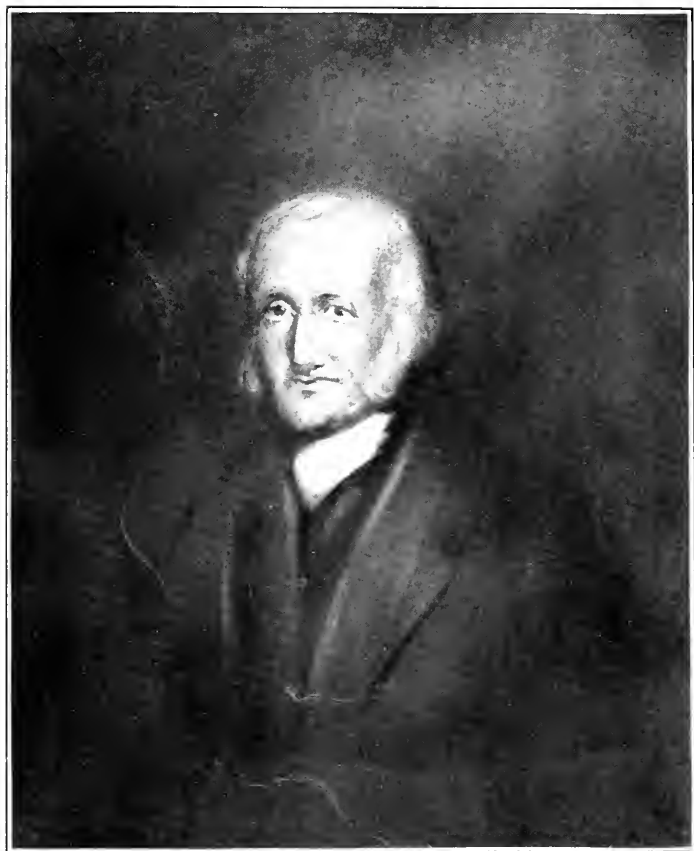
Almon gives the plan copied from the *Pennsylvania Gazette* of July 8<sup>th</sup>. 1780. It was based on the following pledge dated Saturday June 17. 1780:

Whereas in the present situation of public affairs in the United States, the greatest and vigorous exertions are required for the successful arrangement of the Just and necessary war in which they are engaged against Great Britain, We the Subscribers deeply impressed with the sentiment that on such an occasion should govern us in the prosecution of the war on the event of which our own freedom and that of our posterity, and the freedom and independence of the United States are all involved, hereby severally pledge our property and credit for the several sums specified and mentioned after our names in order to support the credit of a Bank to be established for furnishing a supply of provisions for the Armies of the United States: And do severally promise and engage to execute to the Directors of said Bank bonds of the form hereunto annexed. . . . The Subscription List amounting to \$300,000, Pennsylvania Currency, payable in gold or silver included the following subscriptions.

[Here follows the list referred to above.]

[B. V, pp. 250-51]





ISAAC MOSES, 1742-1818.

From a Painting by Gilbert Stuart, in the Possession of His Descendant,  
Miss Rachel Gratz Nathan of New York.



Item taken from Valentine's "Manual of the Corporation of the City of New York of the year 1858," p. 639, article headed "Memorials." Petition from former merchants of New York City, "lately returned from exile," to the Legislature of the State of New York, February 13, 1784. The petition states that before the Revolution these men were "employed in the business of importing goods from Great Britain and the Continent of Europe," and that they are indebted to merchants and manufacturers in Great Britain for considerable sums which they were not able to pay before all intercourse with that country was prohibited. The petition goes on to recite the various acts of patriotism shown by the signers and explains how they have been nearly ruined by their devotion to the new government. The petitioners suggest that the estates of disloyal citizens be confiscated and sold, and the proceeds be turned into a fund, and from this they, the petitioners, be reimbursed for their many and great sacrifices; or as an alternative they state that "the immense tracts of unappropriated lands are a resource in its nature adapted for these purposes. Should these for any reasons be deemed inexpedient," the "petitioners humbly suggest that an adequate portion of their losses be funded as a state debt." The petition is signed by 31 of the leading merchants of New York, Isaac Moses being the only Jew among them.

[B. V, pp. 118-27]

Mr. Isaac Moses, Jr., son of Mr. Joshua Moses showed me a printed card of admission to the ceremony of Coronation of Napoleon the First, found among the papers of his father deceased, of which the following is a description.

*On one side of the card*

Côte gauche du Trône

Dans le Choeur

1<sup>er</sup> Rang de Tribune

No. 11

(The Seal of the)

(Grand Maître)

des

(Cérémonies)

Pour un Homme

*On the reverse*Napoléon 1<sup>er</sup> Empereur des  
Français

(Coat of arms printed)

Cérémonie

Du Sacre et Couronnement

The above card was enclosed in the following printed note, viz :

*Fête du Couronnement*

Le Conseiller d'état Prefet de la Seine a l'honneur d'inviter au nom du Corps municipal de la ville de Paris Monsieur Moses à venir Dimanche prochain, 25 Frimaire, à 7 heures du soir au bal de l'hôtel de ville. Le bal sera honoré de la présence de L. L. M. M. T. T.

Froeliez

Nota. Ce billet ne peut servir qu'à la personne à qui il est adressé, et ne peut être cédé; il sera représenté aux Huissiers placés sur les passages et remi à la personne chargée d'annoncer. On entrera par la rue du Tourniquet; les portes ne seront ouvertes qu'à l'heure indiquée.

Mr. Moses was in Europe at the time of the coronation of Napoleon (1804, 25 Frimaire, which corresponded with 16<sup>th</sup> of December).

[B. V, pp. 312-13]

Pedigree of Moses family. Copy of an old paper found in a portfolio among the family memoranda of the late Aaron Levy, in possession of Mr. Abm. R. B. Moses, grandson of the late Isaac Moses whose ancestors are therein described. The paper is endorsed: "I. Moses' Connexions".

[The items herein contained are included in the more elaborate pedigree given in B. I, No. 45, pp. 335-36.]

[B. I, No. 9]

MEMORANDA KEPT BY AARON LEVY.

Pedigree of Moses family copied from the contents of a red colored bound copy of Lopez's "Lunar Calendar" with notes and memoranda by the late Mr. Aaron Levy of this city. The book is now [about 1872] in possession of Mr. A. R. B. Moses, of this city [New York].

From a separate paper found in the above book:

Father's side of Isaac Moses.

My Grandfather's name was *Rabbi David Busick*, the name of the place he lived in; it is in the Hessian Dominion (name in original in Judish Deutsch) *David ben Jonah*.\* He had 4 sons, my Hon<sup>d</sup>: father who went by the name of [sic]

*Moses Giesen*, the place he resided in before his marriage.

*Jonas Busick* who lived in the same place.

*Israel* lived in Ratzburgh.

*Itzick Millin* who afterwards lived in Hamburg.

Of the females I know nothing. They all left children except *Itzick*.

I was an only child, my Hon<sup>d</sup> father dying when I was two years old. A very remarkable instance happened on the night previous to my Grandfather's death, he sent for all his children requested that they would remove him with as many of his effects as possible that night from where he lived to a certain part of the city and insisted that three of his particular friends should be warned to do the same. They complied, but others treated it as a delirium—but that part of the city was next morning entirely destroyed by fire.

*Jonas* left 2 sons, how many daughters I know not, one lives in London.

*Israel* left 2 sons, one was here named *Sander*, is now married to a niece of *Jonas Phillips* and lives in *Elmershorn* nigh Hamburg, his brother went to the East Indies, or some say to South America.

*Itzick* had no children.

*Israel* had 3 daughters, all married in Hamburg.

My Grand Father on my Hon<sup>d</sup> mother's side was named *Moses Levy*, of *Fernholse*; he left 3 Sons and 3 Daughters.

*Hersh*, the first, lived in Hamburg, went by the name of *Power*.

*Hayman* was my much respected Father in Law.

*Isaac* went to the East Indies.

*Hersh* married 3 wives, all sisters, had female children by all, but no sons. The females were my Hon'd mother *Rischa*. Bila or Bell who was the oldest was a widow when I was a child, had a numerous family and lived in Hanover. Hendle was a worthy woman that I much loved, was married to a flour merchant, was rich and lived in Altona and had no children.

My mother married a second husband named Solom Hertz of Hamburgh, who used her very ill, spent what my father left her. By him she had a son and daughter. The son's name is Hayman. The daughter Reyna died young, was a fine girl, caught the disorder with which my Hon'd mother died. Her husband afterward married a decent young woman that had lived with my mother. One died here, the other you know.

Should any of the above come in your way and you can serve them, do so. Of the female line I can not recollect any of the branches though they were all respectable in their different countries.

#### EXTRACTS FROM THE ABOVE-MENTIONED DIARY OF AARON LEVY, 1805-1834.

1805, Fever in New York.

Septbr. 9. The family moved out of town. Mrs. Sara Levy, wife of Eleazer Levy, Aunt of Aaron Levy, died this day.

1805, Oct. 23, Died at the house of Mr. Aaron Levy—Mr. Abraham Hurtz a native of Germany aged 28.

1806, May 1, Mr. Aaron Levy moved in the house, No. 38 Greenwich Street.

1806, Oct 5, Died Mr. Jaques Ruden, Parnas of the Congregation Shearith Israel. The Banca (Seat of the Parnas) was covered with Crepe for four Sabbaths.

" Oct. 20, moved in town.

" " 19, Solomon Moses his wife & Sister went to Philadelphia, first time after marriage.

" Oct. 18 Front parlor papered . . .

" " 24, Mrs. Benj<sup>n</sup>. Seixas (Sister of Aaron Levy) gave birth to her 18<sup>th</sup> child, a daughter who lived only 3 days.

1806, Oct 28, Soln. Levy moved from Peekskill to the City with his family

- 1807, April 1, Aaron Levy commissioned as Auctioneer, went into Partnership with I. Moses & sons.
- “ August, Prevalence of influenza Sickly Season but no yellow fever.
- “ August 8<sup>th</sup>, A heavy hail storm.
- “ December 25, Embargo took place this day. . . .
- 1808, June, Mr. Carvalho commenced the Hebrew School.
- “ July 5, Mr. Joshua Moses returned from Europe after an absence of 4 years & 8 Months.
- Soln. Levy & G. Gomperts *Bridegrooms of the Law*.\* . . .
- 1809, July 15, Saturday 2 P. M. Joshua Moses sailed for Amsterdam in the ship *Delaware*, Gill, Master, owned by M. & Sons, laid at the hook until 20<sup>th</sup>, when she put to sea and arrived safe at her destined port in 25 days. . . .
- 1810, Messrs. Samson M. Isaacks and Eleazar S. Lazarus *Bridegrooms of the Law*.\*
- 1811, May 19, Sunday. Perhaps a more distressing scene than the one exhibited to our view this day has not been seen in this city since the close of the war. A fire commenced at ten, the wind being high the flames spread rapidly and raged severely until 12; about one hundred houses destroyed and 150 families burnt out. Sixty houses in Chatham Street, Fifteen in Augustus, Fifteen in Duane, Eight or Ten in William. Many houses in other parts of the city took fire in consequence of the cinders falling in the range of the wind. The Steeple of the Brick Meeting, Goal, &ca.
- “ Decr. 26, Theatre in Richmond burnt. (Several members of the family of Raphael perished in the flames—J. J. L.)
- “ Decr. 26, Joshua Moses returned from Europe in the ship *Georgiana* of Norfolk, where he first arrived and got to his native home New York, 7<sup>th</sup> January 1812.
- 1812, June 18, War against Great Britain declared by the United States.
- 1812, Septbr. 15, Called into the Service of the United States with the first Brigade of New York State Artillery as Captain & Paymaster in the 9<sup>th</sup> Regiment, S<sup>n</sup> Fleet L<sup>t</sup> Colonel, Jacob Morton, Brigadier General, in the war against Great Britain declared 18<sup>th</sup> June, and on the 19<sup>th</sup> September 1812 took possession and garrisoned the North Battery in New York with our Regiment. Duty continued 3 months.

Dates of my several Commissions rec<sup>d</sup> in the military:

1800, March 8, Paymaster in 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Infantry.

1806, March 19, Paymaster in 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of Artillery, Sixth Regiment of Infantry transferred to Artillery at this time.

1810, March 12, First Lieut<sup>t</sup>: in 2<sup>nd</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>. Artillery.

1812, February 4, Captain & Paymaster in same Regiment.

1815, April 2, Second Major of a Battalion of Artillery commanded by Richard Kingsland.

1816, March 22, First Major in 9<sup>th</sup> Regiment Artillery.

1816, May 1<sup>st</sup>. Lieutenant Colonel in same Regiment.

1816, July 2 (5576, Tamuz 6), Died our Rever<sup>d</sup>: Hazan Gershom Seixas in the 71<sup>st</sup> year of his age and the 50<sup>th</sup> year of his officiating as Hazan. His remains were car<sup>d</sup>. from his house into Shule where appropriate Psalms were sung and an oration del<sup>d</sup>: on the occasion by Doct<sup>r</sup>. De La Motta.

1817, March 19, 5517, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nissan. Married in London, my nephew Joshua Moses to Miss Sarah Brandon, native of Barbadoes.

1818, A. Levy appointed Lieut<sup>n</sup>. Colonel in the Artillery by the Council.

1818, April 17, 5578 Nissan 11, Friday afternoon, New Shule Consecrated. Commenced rebuilding it on the 10<sup>th</sup> of Aug<sup>t</sup>. previous. Trustees Naphtali Phillips Parnas, Naphtali Judah, M. L. Moses, M. L. M. Peixotto, Eleazer Lazarus and Aaron Levy. Hechal & Building Committee, M. L. Moses, E. S. Lazarus, & A. Levy—Treasurer, Cary Judah. Clerk, Moses B. Seixas, Shamas, Joe. Isaacs, Rabbi, Dob Pigue; Shohet, Mark Solomons. M. L. M. Peixotto officiating as Reader.

1818, Nov 5<sup>th</sup>, Thanksgiving Day throughout the State of New York by proclamation of Dewitt Clinton, Governor of the State, who with the Mayor and many others attended the Synagogue in the afternoon at 4 oclock. The service of Mincha and Arbet as on Holy days, interspersed with Psalms appropriate to the day were sung by the Class.

1819, Yellow fever in New York this year and in all the seaports of the United States.

1819 Oct 10 Saw lilac bushes in full bloom, a second crop. Apple-trees and Gooseberry bushes in Blossom a second time. This summer a warm one.



1819 Decbr., Resigned my Commission as Lieutt. Colonel in the Artillery after a service of 20 years.

1820, Decbr. 6, Wednesday. Thanksgiving day throughout the State of N. Y.

The following Communication is taken from the paper called *The Guardian*, printed at Caldwell, giving an accurate account of the manner the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, 1821, was celebrated there. The expenses of the dinner I provided and much was I pleased at the same.

"4<sup>th</sup> of July 1821 was celebrated at Caldwell by the inhabitants of the patent formerly known as Smith & Mitchell's patent in a style never before witnessed in this Northern clime and for simplicity of manners, correct deportment and true patriotism we can venture to say it was not surpassed in any part of the Union. At 10 oclock the inhabitants of the patent with a few visitors from the adjacent country began to collect and to the heart of philanthropy a more interesting sight could not be exhibited. Among the number were to be seen a few of our revolutionary patriots whose toil and ardor in defense of our independence were recounted by them with many original anecdotes relative to our struggle both interesting and amusing; also the old and the young of both sexes amounting to nearly three hundred free souls. The exercises of the day commenced with a prayer from Rev. Abm. J. Switz of Schenectady, a hymn suited to the occasion sung by a choir of the inhabitants, the declaration of American Independence together with an address delivered by Lieutt. Colonel Aaron Levy, an oration by Mr. Switz, a moral and patriotic hymn by the Choir. The Service concluded with an impressive prayer by the Rev. Mr. Eastwood, resident preacher of the patent, after which at the request of the inhabitants Mr. Eastwood in a complimentary manner named the patent *Mount Levy* with appropriate benedictions to the same. The Company then sat down to a dinner prepared under a bower decorated with laurel & evergreen, where the produce of the country was displayed in the greatest profusion. The Scene was animated with a number of very handsome young ladies. Several songs were sung, and many patriotic toasts drank. After fully enjoying the refreshments the party formed a procession, of both sexes, and marched around the adjacent hills to music when the company dispersed in the most perfect order & harmony each satisfied with both the service and the repast of the day. The day was uncommonly fine and a stage

covered with greens was previously prepared for the orators and Deacons of the Mount and it may be with truth asserted, it was the feast of reason and the flow of soul."

Mem<sup>d</sup>: I notice here the preceding publication in consequence of my being the principal projector and one of the actors in its scene, and as it is a new settlement under my direction and the day or anything like it never before celebrate I leave this as a future memorandum for another generation to look at, when I am, as I hope to be, enjoying in another and better world more solid and everlasting blessings. *Amen*.\*

1822, September, A temporary Shule was opened in Oliver Street for the fall holy days by the Congregation the lower part of the city being deserted on account of the yellow fever. There was also a Minyan at Mount Listen. Mr. Aaron Levy there on 2<sup>nd</sup> day Rosh Hashanah named Gertrude daughter of Soln. Moses of Philadelphia.

1822, Sept. 15, 5583, 1<sup>st</sup> Evg. *Rosh Hashana*,\* Consecration of New Synagogue in Richmond, Virginia, Isaac Judah and Isaac Seixas officiating Readers.

1822, Septbr. 24, 5583, *Eve of Atonement*,\* Cornerstone of a new Synagogue laid in Philadelphia.

1822, July. Early in July 1822 the yellow fever commenced at the foot of Rector St. On the 5<sup>th</sup> of August Mrs N. Phillips died of the same after 5 days' illness. The infected district was fenced in about the 8<sup>th</sup> of Aug<sup>t</sup>: and the citizens generally moved to Greenwich with public offices, Banks &ca., and on the 26<sup>th</sup> October returned en masse. The 15<sup>th</sup> November the Custom house, Post Office Banks &ca. returned to their former places and the Houses of Public Worship were reopened after having been so long shut up in the Lower part of the city. The number of cases reported during the pestilence were 401, Deaths 230. Joshua Moses & his family, with my family were at Mount Listen with my mother in law's family during the sickness.

1823, March 29, Mrs. Sarah Esther Brandon, wife of Abm. R. Brandon died. Her funeral had to be deferred to the 31<sup>st</sup> in consequence of a severe snow storm. She was to have been buried the day before. Buried in Chatham St. . . .

1823, Sept. 29, 5584, Tishri 24. Died at Philadelphia, Mrs. Rachel Gratz Moses, wife of my brother in law Soln. Moses, and on the Wednesday following her infant daughter Gertrude; both interred together. The following notice is taken from the *National Advocate*, viz:

"Died at Philadelphia, on Monday evening 29<sup>th</sup> September, of an apoplexy, Mrs. Rachel Moses, wife of Mr. Solomon Moses and daughter of the late Michael Gratz of Philadelphia; and on Wednesday morning her infant daughter Gertrude aged 13 months and a few days. In the hearts of her many weeping friends and children she will continue to live through the sweet remembrance of her numerous virtues. She will long be lamented by the poor as the kind and compassionate benefactress whose feeling heart was ever ready to weep over the woes and whose ready hand was ever open to relieve them. A life spent in the exercise of moral and religious duty hath fitted this 'mother in Israel' to meet the destroying angel unappalled, and her peace being made, calmly to resign her soul to Him who gave it. And feeling no terrors of death she 'sleeps with her fathers' in humble trust of a joyful resurrection to the Heavenly Jerusalem."

1823, October 8, Opening of the Great Canal celebrated at Albany with unusual splendor and Parade.

1824, January 16. We yesterday had the novel and pleasing sight of beholding vessels descending the Hudson from Albany & Troy. A similar circumstance has not occurred since 1757 when as we are informed by an old and respectable citizen that Peter Van Burgh Livingston, who was at that time in Government Service, dispatched a vessel from this City to Albany with public stores on the 20<sup>th</sup> January. The river has been closed since the commencement of this season, but a continuance of uncommon mild weather has entirely cleared the ice—Arrived 1 Sloop from Troy & 3 Sloops from Albany, 17 hours run with valuable cargoes.

1824, Sept. 15. Left Lake George 15<sup>th</sup> Sept., got to Albany 16<sup>th</sup> Septbr. and was detained there one day in consequence of the arrival of the Marquis De La Fayette who was received in a style suiting the worth of the man.

- 1825, Janry. 21. Synagogue in Philadelphia consecrated on Friday evening, Service the same as the one that was observed in this city with some small alterations, and was performed by Mr. Keese the Hazan of that Congregation assisted by our Hazan Peixotto who left New York for that purpose the Wednesday previous.
- 1824, June 14, Phillip Salomons of London arrived in New York, an inmate of our house.
- 1825, Novbr. 3. Arrived home on the 3<sup>d</sup> Nov. at 9 in the morning in good health (from Lake George on business—J. J. L.) Found New York also in a bustle celebrating the completion of the Canal. The river procession was the most imposing sight I ever beheld. The military as well as the civil procession was also very splendid. The illuminations and fire works closed the festive day.
- 1825, Novbr. 24. Thanksgiving Day when the Rev. Mr. Peixotto delivered his first English oration. . . .
- 1826, July 24, Phillip Salomons returned to London. . . .
- 1827, June 29, 5587, Tamuz 5. Polish & German Synagogue called *B'nai Jeshurun* \* consecrated, situate in Elm Street. The building had been erected for a church, but the Congregation owning it was forced to sell and it was purchased by subscription, and underwent a thorough alteration for the above purpose. . . .
- 1828, April 28. I moved from No. 38 Greenwich St, where I had lived 22 years to house No. 60 Church St, belonging to Widow Stewart. Rent this year \$490. Ten cartmens' loads. Ten d° with hand barrow. Eight loads with Andrews' Cart and a boy all day with a wheel barrow.
- 1828, April 29. Joshua Moses moved into Warren Street near us.
- 1828, May 19 & 20, *Pentecost*,\* Rev. Mr. Peixotto the Hazan being sick, I said part of the prayers with Abm. Cohen. . . .
- 1828, May 2, Doctor De La Motta came and lived with us ten days. . . .
- 1828, July 6 and July 17. Watched by the sickbed of Rev. M. L. M. Peixotto.
- 1828, July 17. Died, Rev. Moses Levy Maduro Peixotto, after being Hazan 12 years. His remains were taken from his son's house in White Street on Thursday evening and carried to the Trustee room adjoining the Shule where they remained until next day. In the afternoon service was said in both Shules.

The German Congregation then joined ours in Mill Street and after carrying the body 7 times round the Shule, it was taken to the old burial ground Oliver St and interred on Friday afternoon the 18<sup>th</sup> on the row next but one of our dear Lavinia. His loss was universally lamented. He was a good man. Isaac Seixas at the demise of Mr. Peixotto officiated as Hazan, being a temporary appointment by the Trustees.

1828, October 19<sup>th</sup>, Died at Philadelphia Rev. Abraham Israel Keese (Hazan of Congn. Mikve Israel) universally beloved and lamented.

1829, May 1. Moved from No. 60 Church Street to 66 Warren St, belonging to Doctor Berger, Rent \$700 per annum.

Joshua Moses with his eight children and two women came to my house on the 5<sup>th</sup> of May 1829.

1829, June 9. Isaac L. Brandon went to Liverpool to meet his father.

1829, August 23, New burial ground consecrated by the *Hazan* \* Isaac Seixas and the Trustees. . . .

1830, April 27, Appointed Auctioneer. May 5, M. L. Moses and May 6, R. M. Harrison bonded at Mayor's office as securities for my appointment.

1832, The Cholera raging in the City I did not go to the Lake [George] as usual, nor did I leave the city this year. In consequence of the sickness being so near us we moved a part of our family to M. L. Moses' house and the other part to the next house 123 & 125 Hudson Street.

1833 August 15, Left home with my wife, with Reyna, Isaac and Brandon Moses arrived at Albany same afternoon, staid at the Eagle Tavern the night, kept by Crittenden, an excellent house. Took the rail next day, the 16<sup>th</sup>, and arrived at the Saratoga Springs for dinner, put up at the Pavillion where we staid until the 22<sup>d</sup>: Then went to Lake George where we arrived in the afternoon same day, staid there until the 25<sup>th</sup>, returned to the Springs in time for dinner, and in the afternoon took the railroad line and arrived in Albany in the evening and on the 26<sup>th</sup> returned home, where we arrived all in good health.

Mr. Levy having business at Lake George and at Moriah, Essex County, went to these places once, sometimes twice a

year. He gives each time a description of his journey, the means of conveyance and the time it took him to go from one place to another. In the notice of his journey in 1823 he says,<sup>1</sup>

Got to Sandy Hill in time for Shabath, 1<sup>st</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> stayed at Beard during the Sabbath and went to Lake George 3<sup>d</sup> of Aug<sup>t</sup>,

and in 1825 he says,

Left Albany Friday 7<sup>th</sup> (October) at 4 o'clock with nine passengers in the Stage, weather very warm, arrived at Sandy Hill at 4 o'clock and remained there for the Sabbath. went to Lake George Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Levy therefore respected the Sabbath even under difficulties, a good example to record. The exact business of these journeys does not transpire in these notices, only once he alludes to the nature thereof, (in 1828), where he says:

Augt. 13. Left it (Saratoga) and got to Lake George for dinner where I remained attending my land concern until the 28<sup>th</sup>.

1834, June 12, *Eve of Pentecost* \* The new Synagogue in Crosby Street consecrated. Soln. I. Isaacs, Parnass; Henry Hendricks, Treasurer, M. L. Moses, Naph<sup>y</sup>. Phillips, M. B. Seixas & Aaron Judah, Trustees. Isaac B. Seixas, *Hazan* \* Gedalia Posnanski Shochet. The Synagogue in Mill Street was taken down in May, 1833, and our service was continued (until the new building was completed) in the large building White Street corner of Center Street, New York Dispensary. . . .

1834, May 1. Moved from T. A. Emmett's house, No. 47 Hudson Street, to No. 20 White Street, house belonging to Mr. Cherr-waud. Rent \$750 p<sup>r</sup>: ann.

[B. I, Nos. 45-50]

Copied from a paper (found by Isaac Moses) from Estate of his late Grandfather Isaac Moses who died in 1818. This paper is supposed to have been written in 1816 and is a list of property held by Isaac Moses at that time:

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<sup>1</sup> [The explanations in this paragraph are by Rev. J. J. Lyons].

*First ward*

Grahams	88 Pearl Street	\$ 9000
Ditto	86	10000
Hicks Lawrence & Co.	158 " "	11500
A Levy	38 Greenwich Street	6000
Public Store	113 " "	9000
D°	111	9000
Dumont	45 Stone "	3500
Dwelling	86 Greenwich "	13000
Lenox	Washington	7000
Stores	63 Wall Street	25000
½ wharf	Washington "	1500

*10th ward*

2 lots	Stanton Street	600
16 ditto	Delancey "	8000

*9th ward*

2 Houses & 7½ acres Fitzroy Road		8300
6¼ ditto ditto		3200

*8th ward*

4 Stores 11 Lots	West Bank Street	5000
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\$129600

*Mrs Cohen's*

1 Vacant Lot 6th ward	Hester Street	900
3½ Ditto 8th ward	Broadway	4350

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\$134850

[B. V, facing p. 43]

[Isaac Moses figures in the annals of the Revolution as assisting the cause of American Independence. For details see Index volume of the *Publications*.]

ITEMS RELATING TO THE SEIXAS FAMILY, NEW YORK.

From papers in the possession of Mr. Moses Solomons, grandson of Rev. G. Seixas.<sup>1</sup>

Reminiscences of the Seixas' family, furnished by Moses Solomons.

An incident (traditional in the Seixas' family) of the days when the emisaries of the Inquisition spread terror and sorrow by their sudden appearance within the peaceful and happy home of some suspected Jew is related substantially as follows. The progenitor of this now very numerous family had a faithful servant who was a man of great physical strength and when the minions of the "Holy Office" entered the grounds of his master, he hastened to warn him of the danger and together they hurriedly looked around for a place of concealment. Seeing no safety by remaining on the premises, the loyal servant hid him beneath the clothing that lay in a large pannier (basket) used for conveying the garments to the water-side for the periodical cleansing, and carried him in the basket away from the house on his back to a place of security, concealing him until he could secretly leave the country for England, where his family joined him as soon as they could do so with safety and secure what property they could make portable.

The family of Seixas came originally from Lisbon, Portugal,  
—J. J. L.

[B. IV, pp. 216-17]

Records of Births, Marriages & Deaths &c in Newport, R. I., copied from the Family Bible of the late Moses Seixas. The Bible is now in the possession of his grandson, Mr. Joshua Phillips of New York.

Moses Seixas, born in New York, 5504, Nisan 28, 1744, March 28.  
Jochebed Seixas (Daughter of Benj<sup>n</sup>. and Judith Levy), born in New York, 5506, Sebath 2, 1746, January 12. They were married in Newport, Rhode Island, 5531, Tisri 14, 1770, October 3. Their issue were born in the aforesaid place.

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<sup>1</sup> [These papers are now in the possession of Lucius Levy Solomons of San Francisco.]



Our daughter Judith was married to Samuel, the son of Aaron & Sarah Lopez, of this place on Tuesday, 1806, March 4, First day of Purim, 5566, Adar 14 and have issue, viz<sup>t</sup>:

Sarah, born Sunday Septbr. 7, 1806—Elul 24<sup>th</sup>, 5566 in Newport.  
Aaron, born Friday, 20 November, 1807, Heshvan 19<sup>th</sup>, 5568.

Copied from a piece of paper evidently torn out of the family Bible of Mr. Moses Seixas, written in his handwriting.

Belhah Levy Seixas born *Shebat* \* 29, 5541, 24 Febry. [1781].

Abigail, 23<sup>d</sup> Tebet, 5543, Decbr 28. [1782]

Gershon, 1<sup>st</sup> day Sucot, 5545, Thursday, 30 September, 1784.

Died 12 October, 1784.

Grace, born Sunday 10 Tebeth (Fast) 5547, 31 December 1786.

Esther, born Sunday 18 Iyar, 5550, 2<sup>d</sup> May [1790].

On the [*sic*] Heshvan 5541, the 3<sup>d</sup> November 1780, at 1/2 past 3 P. M., it pleased the Almighty to call from this transitory and frail state in Newport, Rhode Island, my dear honored father Mr. Isaac Mendes Seixas, aged 72 years.

Saturday morning about 10 o'clock the [*sic*] Sebeth 5541—the 3<sup>d</sup> of February 1781, at Newport, Rhode Island, my affectionate friend and sister in law Belhah Levy. Died aged 39 years.

Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> 1782, 15<sup>th</sup> day of Sivan 5542, my esteemed and valuable friend, Mr. Aaron Lopez, was drowned in Scots Pond, 5 miles from Providence.

Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> February 1786, 7<sup>th</sup> day of Adar 5546, it pleased the Almighty to deprive us of our dearly beloved son Isaac, aged 6 years, 6 months & 8 days.

Sunday night, Decbr. 30, 1787, 19<sup>th</sup> day Tebet 5548, Mr. Benj<sup>n</sup>. Levy died, aged 95.

Thursday morn, being the 8<sup>th</sup> day Sucot 5549, 23<sup>d</sup> of October 1788, died Judith Levy relict to the above mentioned Mr. Benjamin Levy, aged 86.

Tuesday night, 23<sup>d</sup> Sebat 5549—18 Feb<sup>y</sup>: 1789, departed this transitory life my valuable and good friend, Mr. Jacob Rodrigues Rivera, aged 72 years.

Monday night, 28<sup>th</sup> Sivan 5552, 18 June 1792, died my venerable & invaluable friend & Uncle, Mr. Moses Levy, aged 88 years; and on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> Heshvan 5553, 23<sup>d</sup> October 1792, I moved into his late dwelling house which he bequeathed me by his late will and testament.

Sunday afternoon, 25<sup>th</sup> Tamooz 5555, 12<sup>th</sup> July 1795, Mr. Hiam Levy died, aged 56 years.

Friday, the 16<sup>th</sup> Iyar 5557, May 12<sup>th</sup> 1797, at New York, my dear venerable mother, Rachel Mendes Seixas, departed this transitory life, aged [*sic*] years.

My Brother Abraham died at Charleston, So. Carolina, April 9, 1799, Nissan 3<sup>d</sup> 5559, aged 49 years.<sup>1</sup>

The following item is registered by Mr. Benj<sup>n</sup>. Seixas:

Tuesday, Novbr. 29<sup>th</sup> 1809, 21<sup>st</sup> day of Kislev 5570, it pleased the Almighty to deprive us of our dear and honored father, Mr. Moses Seixas who died in New York, aged 65 years, 8 months and 1 day.

Memorandum of those circumcised by Moses Seixas, viz.

My son Benjamin, born Tuesday 8 Sivan 5535, 6<sup>th</sup> June 1775.

Jacob, son of Myer and Abigail Polock, born Shabat Lech Lecha, 11 Heshvan, and Died 17<sup>th</sup> Heshvan 5538, 17 Novbr 1777.

Samuel, Son of Abm. & Sarah Per. Mendes, born at Portsmouth in Rhode Island, Shabat Beshalach, 13<sup>th</sup> Shebat 5536, 3<sup>d</sup> February 1776.

David, son of Myer and Abigail Polock, born Friday, 21 Heshvan 5538, 21 September 1777.

Judah, son of Hiam and Grace Levy, born Thursday, 23<sup>d</sup> Sivan 5538—18 June 1778.

Myer, son of Nathan and Grace Hart, born Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> Sivan 5539, 2<sup>d</sup> June 1779, and circumcised the 5<sup>th</sup> of August, 1779. Died 4<sup>th</sup> of Elul 5539, 16 August 1779.

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<sup>1</sup> [Abraham Seixas was a patriot officer during the American Revolution and figures repeatedly in the military correspondence of the period.]

My son Isaac, born Wednesday, 15 Ab 5539, July 28<sup>th</sup>, 1779. Died 7 Adar 5546.

Samson Mears, son of Jacob and Rebecca Isaacks, born Monday, 18 Tebet 5540, 27 Dec. 1779, and died 13 Sebat, 20 Jan<sup>ry</sup>. 1780.

Raphael, son of Joseph and Bilhah Jacobs, born Wednesday evening, 8 Shebat 5542, 23<sup>d</sup> January 1782.

Jacob, son of Lyon and Sarah Henry, born Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> Elul 5542, 18<sup>th</sup> August 1782.

Samson Mears, son of Jacob and Rebecca Isaacks, born Friday 13<sup>th</sup> Sivan 5543, 13<sup>th</sup> June 1783, and died 29<sup>th</sup> of the same month and year.

Isaac, son of Joseph and Bilhah Jacobs, born Thursday Sume Tamooz 5543, 1783, and died 18 Elool, 15<sup>th</sup> September 1784.

Isaac, son of Abm. and Sarah P. Mendes, born Thursday, 14 Tebet 5544—8<sup>th</sup> January 1784, and died in the same month and year.

My son Gershom, born Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> day Sucot 5545, 30<sup>th</sup> September 1784—Died 12<sup>th</sup> October 1784.

Jacob, son of Moses and Rachel Isaacks, born Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> Iyar 5545, 25<sup>th</sup> April 1785. Died 16 March 1786.

Isaac, son of Abm. and Sarah P. Mendes born Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> August 1785, 5<sup>th</sup> Elul 5545.

Benjamin, son of Joseph and Bilhah Jacobs, born Wednesday, 26 Iyar 5546, May 1786.

Moses, son of Isaac and Rachel Cohen D'Azevedo, born Monday, 17 day of Tisri 5546, 9 October 1786; died 7 July 1787, 21 Tamuz 5547.

Jacob, son of Abm. & ——— Rivera, born Shabat, 13<sup>th</sup> Elul, 28 Aug. 1790.

Jacob, son of Barak and Rachel Hays, born Sunday, 3<sup>d</sup> Sivan 5551, 5<sup>th</sup> June 1791. Circumcised April 22, 1796.

Manuel, son of Abm. and ——— Rivera, born Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> Nissan 5556, circumcised 7<sup>th</sup> day of Pesach. Died 20 February 1797.

Myer Benjamins Died Wednesday night, 9<sup>th</sup> Kislef 5537, 20 November 1776.

Myer Polock Died Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> Adar 5539, February 18<sup>th</sup> 1779.

Naphtali Hart Died Tuesday, 22<sup>d</sup> August 1786, 28 Ab 5546, aged 70.

Martha Lazarus alias Moravia, Died Thursday, 12 July 1787, 26<sup>th</sup> Tamuz 5547, She having been a pensioner of the Sedaka 6 years and 9 months and cost about 1500 dollars.

*Good luck \**

Our daughter Rachel was married to Naphtali, the son of Jonas and Rebecca Phillips of Philadelphia, on Wednesday the 11<sup>th</sup> Tamuz 5557, July 5, 1797. They staid with us till Tuesday, 31 October, and then went by the via of New York to Philadelphia where they arrived Thursday evening, November 16<sup>th</sup> 1797.

[E. II, pp. 116-24]

1745. "Account Curant Received from Messrs. Isaac and Abram De Peister 1745 Decbr 2 N York." [This is followed by other accounts by the same parties, covering the period from 1745 to 1751. See *supra*, p. 6.]

A portion of a Statement of the Case between the Seixas family and Depeister, the later part of the document is missing.  
J. J. L.

Isaac Mendes Seixas	} Case
Admr: with the will annexed of Ab:	
Mendes Seixas deceased	
ag <sup>t</sup>	
Isaac and Ab: De peyster	

Miguel Pacheco de Silva, late of London, deceased, in his Lifetime sends over Goods to Isaac & Ab. De Peyster to be disposed of upon Commission at 5 p<sup>r</sup> Cent. Their accounts and dealings were of several years and to very great value but no compleat Settlement was ever had between them during the Lifetime of said Pacheco who died about the year 1738, having first made a will on the 6<sup>th</sup> of March in the year 1737/8 by which he appointed Rodrigo Pacheco and Daniel Mendis Seixas his Executors. On the 29<sup>th</sup> of November 1745, on the Solicitations of the said

Executors the said Isaac and Abraham De Peyster account with the said Miguel Pacheco da Silva, late deceased, Estate by an account Current (No 2) in which they settle the Ballance under their hands by the Stile of Isaac & Abraham De Peyster, to be due when what's outstanding shall be received, being about 424£ *and bad debts* (out of the said 424£) *not to their prejudice* to be Two thousand One Hundred and Twenty three pound Sixteen Shillings and Eleven pence half penny. Afterwards, the aforesaid Daniel Mendes Seixas, being in England as *Surviving Executor* of the aforesaid Miguel Pacheco (Rodrigo Pacheco, the other Executor being dead) by his letter of attorney (No. 3) bearing date the 29<sup>th</sup> of January in the year 1750 among other things did especially authorize and impower Isaac Mendes Seixas of the City of New York, Merchant, to take out, if necessary, Letters of administration at New York of all and singular the goods, chattels and Credits of the said Deceased with his will annexed for the use and benefit of the constituent &c<sup>a</sup>. In consequence of which letter of attorney the said Isaac Mendes Seixas applied to the Prorogative office at New York for administration on the goods chatties and Credits which were of the said deceased together with his will annexed during the absence of the aforesaid Daniel Mendis Seixas, Surviving Executor as aforesaid, which (No. 4) was agreable to such application granted to him on the 25<sup>th</sup> of June 1756. The said Isaac and Abraham De Peyster having sometime in the year 1750 delivered unto Isaac Mendes Seixas administrator as aforesaid an other accounts current (No. 5) in which by charging the Estate with a Ballance due to them by the aforesaid Rodrigo Pacheco Ex<sup>r</sup> as aforesaid in his own Right they draw a Ballance against our Testator of £154.15. 4 3/4 in their favour, the dispute arising is whether such monies due to the said Depeysters by the said Rodrigo Pacheco *in his own Right* ought to be charged ag<sup>t</sup>: our Testator even tho he be Executor of the Testator's Estate. To settle which dispute by the most amicable and goodly method.

(The Residue of this paper is missing, but the case is repeated in the following document with the decision attached.)

Paper marked No. 6: "A Case

"For Mr. Attorney Genl<sup>s</sup> Opinion."

It is desired that M<sup>r</sup>. Attorney General will be so good as to

answer this short case by the beginning of the week as the Ships will then sail for New York. 2 Guineas.

J<sup>as</sup> BERNARD Soll<sup>r</sup>.

21 F. Threadneedle Street

A Case.

That M<sup>r</sup> Abraham Mendes Seixas by his will dated the 6<sup>th</sup> of March 1737/8 nominated Mr. Rodrigo Pacheco & Mr. Daniel Mendes Seixas or the survivor of them the Extor or Admor of the Survivor of them to be executors of his will in trust for the purposes therein mentioned.

The said Abraham Mendes Seixas dyed in the year 1738, whereupon the said Rodrigo Pacheco and Daniel Mendes Seixas proved the said will and continued to act in the Execution thereof till the year 1749 when Mr. Pacheco dyed, since which Mr. Seixas the surviving Extor hath taken upon himself the whole burthen thereof.

That on his demanding a ballance due from Messrs. Isaac & Abraham Peisters, Merchants at New York, to the Estate of y<sup>e</sup> said Abraham Mendes Seixas, they refuse to pay it unless the s<sup>d</sup>. Daniel Mendes Seixas will allow in the account a sum of money wch Mess<sup>rs</sup> De Peister alledge is due to them from y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Rodrigo Pacheco the deceased Ext<sup>or</sup>. of said Abraham Mendes Seixas, & insist that as he was an Ext<sup>or</sup>. they have a right to sett off the Ballance due from him to them against the sum due from them to the Estate of the Testator.

N. B. Messrs. Pieters in the year 1747 sent an account currant signed by them to the said Ext<sup>ors</sup> in which no mention is made of any Debt due from Pacheco to them.

Mr. Attorney Generals opinion is desired in order to satisfy the people of New York.

Q-1 Whether the said Messrs. de Pieters have any right or pretence whatsoever to sett of the Ballance due from Rodrigo Pacheco dece<sup>d</sup>: to them against the Ballance due from them to the Estate of the Testator; and if they are not obliged to pay such ballance to Mr. Dan<sup>l</sup> Mendes Seixas, the surviving Exer without any Deduction on that amount.

As the Debt from Pacheco has no relation to the Testator's Estate, I am of opinion, it can be set off or deducted out of the Debt from Messrs. Pieters to the Testators Estate & those Gentle-

men are obliged to pay their debt to the Survivor without such deduction.

Q-2<sup>d</sup> Whether one of the Executors is answerable for money received out of the Testators estate by the other Executor and misapply<sup>d</sup> by him?

I am of opinion one Executor is not answerable for y<sup>e</sup> money recieved by the other Executor solely, tho misapplied by him.

D. RYDER

22 Feby. 1750.

"Sir Dudley Ryder became Solicitor General in December 1733, . . . . Attorney General in January 1737, and Chief Justice of England on the death of Sir William Lee in April, 1754. He died on the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1756. . . ." (Book of Opinions of Eminent Lawyers . . . ., p. 29, Sec. 49. J. J. L.)

A Paper marked No. 3. Stamped 3 Stamps VI. Pence. Power of attorney executed January 29, 1750, by Daniel Mendes Seixas of London, merchant, acting on these presents as surviving Executor of the last will and Testament of Abraham Mendes Seixas, otherwise Miguel Pachecho da Silva, late of the parish of St. Dunstan Stepney, in the county of Middlesex, Merchant, deceased, to Mr. Isaac Mendes Seixas of New York, merchant, to collect claims on behalf of estate. Proved in New York, June 10, 1751.

[The minutes of the Supreme Court of Judicature of New York, 1757 to 1760, *sub dato* show that on April 28, 1757, Isaac Mendez Seixas, administrator, etc., of Abraham Mendez Seixas, deceased, had commenced a suit against Isaac Depeyster and Abraham Depeyster, and that the defendants appeared on that day. On October 17, 1757, the Court referred the matter to three arbitrators to report and their opinion to stand as judgment. On January 10, 1759, a second order of reference was made, and on April 17, 1759, the report of the referees was read in court, showing an award in favor of the defendants for £348.11.8 and 3 f., with costs. The report was ordered to

stand confirmed *nisi causa*, etc. . . . Data supplied through courtesy of Mr. Samuel Oppenheim.]

[B. IV, pp. 250-63]

No. 1. A Letter from Mrs. Rebecca Mendes Seixas of London, England, to Isaac Mendes Seixas, New York.

1744/5 Mch 14

March 14<sup>th</sup> 1744/5

My Dearest and loveing Brother

Yours by Bryant I have received and am heartily glad you enjoy perfect health after the recovery from your sore throat. I am indifferent well, my constation being very much broken by the many returns I have had within these three years of the sore throat which every time brings me near my end, and more specially last may which I never thought I should outlive and by mere scarification gott down food enought to maintain me, and ever since I look upon my life as a special gift of Providence for some good end, and as my greatest trouble in that my affliction was leaving these world before your affairs had come to some settled way, I have been since constantly employed in bringing that about. Both uncle and Daniel seem to entertain a desire to comply with me in these request, but as I have not before communicated to you in these head I could not be enabled to propose any thing to them as from you, but I may subjoine here such things as may be of some expedient to bring these maters to a more favourable turn for you. As the funds at present on acont of the Estate of our deceased father will come to near two thousand pounds, I think ways might be found to divide it in two parts, one of which could be delivered to you prently along with all the debts and pretentions the Estate has upon severall persons, and the other half might be transferred into hands of trustees, the interest of which you could enjoy for life, that you may allways have something to trost to, and upon your demise the right of the income should come to me whilst living and after the principal may be distributed as may be agreed, being always certain that in failure of my insue, which is likely to be none, nobody shall have better title than yours, if in these aforesaid you can find any reasonable likelihood of doing better than at present, I flater myself I shall bring it about, or indeed any other proposition you can think of. I must likewise put you in mind that it will be altogether impossible to transact an affair of these kind by letter of Attorney, but if you so incline these to a happy ensue it will be adviseable to



embrace your best opportunity of coming over alone, that by putting an end to it I may at once receive a double satisfaction in enjoying your company for some months. I must repeat to you once more to mind me, that in case you do not come no manner of agreement can take place, these for your government, and I hope it is for the best, or at least my views are such and I pray you to let me know your resolution as soon as possible by all the opportunities under cover to Daniels. Messrs. Depeister seems to forget their balance. I shall endeavour to persuade uncle and Daniel a letter of attorney by Bryant to call upon em. I have nothing to acquaint you with, worth your notice but recommend you to the Almighty God for his protection and that may whatever you undertake be the most for your good. With my hearty and kind remembrance to you I remain,

Your very loving affectionate Sister,

REBECCA MENDES SEIXAS.

On the Cover Directed "to my Dear Brother Isaac Mendes Seixas." No postmark.

No. 2. A Letter from Daniel Mendes Seixas, London, to the same.

LONDON May 4 1748

Dear Brother Isaac Mendez Seixas,

My last to you was per Cap. Skimer with some encomendas. I hope you are in good health. We are pretty well and very much at yr service. The prints of the seasons are ready and shall go per Bryant on board of whose ship Mr. Tavares intends to go to you in his way to Jamaica, where by the death of his father in law his presence is much needed and desired by the coexecutors. His business in your place is to settle some accounts with his correspondents and some affairs of uncle; we have talked over the affairs of the Estate and uncle seems now come into temper of effectuating something there. The account of De Peister with the Estate, you know, is brought into a balance of 2123 and out of which £130 Str<sup>a</sup> sent from Jamaica here and £460 d<sup>o</sup> given to you is to be deducted and any bad debts that may have happened in the Invoice, which if you could had immediately, it would be of service to the Estate; as to the balance, I am sensible it will be difficult to come at it in ready remittances but I could not think the sending provisions to Jamaica could be to advantage, now that by God's blessing we are in the eve of a peace, I shall readily promote ye

sending all to Lisbon or any other European Port and am further ready to take any hint you can give me upon this affair. The power that Ben. is to carry from us, whether an Epistolary or Notarial, is not settled. God direct us for the best, and now the grand Ridle of De Peister's excuses will come out, for I had an oportunity to tell to Uncle so much as they said to you before y<sup>r</sup> coming. The Estates present income is some shill<sup>s</sup> above 52 pound and so I have credit y<sup>r</sup> acc<sup>t</sup> with £52 which is a year due, I think, last fall; if you think so may send advice and if any mistakes shall be retified and I should be glad to have an acc<sup>t</sup> of the annuity that Uncle sent to you on acc<sup>t</sup> of the Estate, and in what times, I believe I told you so much when here but supose you forgot it. Some litle remittances have now come from Pernambuco am<sup>t</sup>. to ab<sup>t</sup>. 70 pounds which will increase your next annuite. we expect something from Rio but according to costume the letters are not come yet; when peace comes I shall either by hook or crook settle with Danigues who I think have not shown themselves friends. I am sorry European goods are such drugs with you, I can't imagine but (if the case should so continue) it will be more to y<sup>r</sup> advantage and the Estate also to receive as much as you can of DPeister there at a favorable exchange to you and that same shall yearly be deducted from y<sup>r</sup> acc<sup>t</sup>, so by those means you have several years annuity advance and the Estate here accumulating interest upon interest, if you think it to your advantage, tho I have no authority from uncle for so doing. I would have execute it upon the credit of this Leter and I will take upon myself the risk that may come thereof. I have not talked of this business for a long time with you and now I could fill sheets with it, but you are so acquainted with the nature of them that you may suppose all that I could explain to make you understand. I have nothing in view but y<sup>r</sup> interest and I dare say uncle will not oppose the motion specialy as I say I take the risk upon my Self. By Bryant shall be more particular. Politicks are at present very considerable topicks. The french this year opened the campagne with y<sup>e</sup> siege of Maestricht and so eager they were of having it in possession that it was undertaken very early in April when the rains natural to y<sup>e</sup> season retarded their works and entailed diseases upon their troops, however after losing near 300 men they got to the covered way by 27 or 28 last, and some preparations for an assault being rendred useless by a Saly, the thing was postponed till the 4<sup>th</sup> instant, but between the time viz on the 30<sup>th</sup> April N. S., the preliminaries for a peace

were signed at Aix La Chapele by ye ministers of Great Britain, France and Holland; private history say that France undertook for Spain, and Sardinia weightd a particular answer from his master, they say likewise that the Empress Minister protested. However, is the opinion of everybody that we shall have a peace. I suppose you would be glad to know the conditions and I should not be backward to impart them to you if I had 'em. The common opinion is that all powers shall remain with ye possessions they had before the war except Parma & Platentia, that is to be ceded to Philpe and one or two places for the King of Sardinia, the Emperor is to be acknowledged and Spain is not to shear—as soon as I know anything for certain shall impart it, for the above is not too much to be depended upon. our Stoks are got up finely at least 10 p<sup>100</sup>, and its said that as soon as the ratifications come we shall have cessation of arms by sea as there is already by land. In the meantime our men of war are not idle, for out of a convoy y<sup>e</sup> sailed from S Domingo with 16 Ships loaded, 10 of them are safely in our ports, besides the affair of Knowles at Port Luis in Hispanola of which no doubt you heard before and y<sup>e</sup> chance of what he may do at Cuba. Our sanguine expectations are in Boz Cawen in India where any Cecesiatiion cant come in time to prevent the mischief that can be done before. Comodore Coats took away from the protection of 9 Spanish men of war only with 4 1/2 5 Ships richly laden valued at 200 thousand pound. I suppose you have heard the dismal news of the fire that hapened here on Lady day it began at our Grand Eldrige whose family was burnt and a new hob of mine that was for Pezah besides my romanim wigg—its a dismal sight to look from the south gate of y<sup>e</sup> Ex<sup>e</sup> down Corhil from Change alley to S<sup>t</sup> Michaels' Church is all levell and as far as Lombard Street deep, except the last row of houses whose being bankers great care was taken of them and Escaped with some damage in y<sup>e</sup> backs. Many tradesmen that were burnt out of their abitations are removed to the Ex<sup>e</sup> above, so by that we gott the roof of it, that was upon ye falling mended and beautified. God deliver us from such misfortunes and have you in his keeping. I am yr very loving & affectionate Brother,

DANIEL MENDEZ SEIXAS.

No. 3. A Letter from Daniel M. Seixas & Rebecca M. Seixas of London to Isaac M. Seixas, New York, endorsed by the latter on the back: "Recd. May 12<sup>th</sup>, 1751 p<sup>r</sup> the Joseph W<sup>en</sup> Bryant."

LONDON Feb. 22 1750/1

Dear Brother,

By the ships that arrived this winter received three from you and am glad to understand you enjoy y<sup>r</sup> health, we are pretty well and very much at y<sup>r</sup> service. the bill you drew on me payable to Messrs. Lud Low for £32 was duely payd, only please to mind when another occasion calls for yr drawing on me to do it on Dan<sup>l</sup> M. Seixas for I was like to have this protested, tho the order was my Bank for the paymt. By this conveyance I send you the authentic copy of y<sup>r</sup> fathers will and my letter of attorney as full as it can be made. I have likewise laid before the Attorney General the case of a Credit<sup>r</sup> to an Estate to have a right to sett the debt of one Executor and as soon as it comes back shall inclose it for y<sup>r</sup> satisfaction, tho the attorney tells me it is a shame to ask such a question, for Depeister cant have any collour of Justice in such a thing—as by this papers you are empowered to go to Law &<sup>ca</sup> Lett me entreat you to be as sparing in charges as possible, tho I am in hopes that as soon they see the resolution and power they will come to acc<sup>t</sup>. Its impossible for me to advise you how to act as I don't know how their proceedings will be but leave it all to you, who I know will use as much moderation as is consistent with security, not that their behaviour entitles them to y<sup>r</sup> favour, but as it may prove a shorter way to come to the end of this acc<sup>t</sup>, for I know how difficult its to ballance in Courts when every article not accounted for requires a prove. God direct you for the best and have you in his holy keeping.

Your Very Lov<sup>e</sup> & affect<sup>d</sup> Brother

DANIEL M. SEIXAS

Since wrighting the above received the opinion of the attorney general, which is as clear as can be on our side. here is a Lottery going to be drawn in y<sup>e</sup> month of Nov<sup>r</sup>. next, the tickets are like to bear an advanced price, for tho it was voted yesterday the sell them at Change alley at £11.5 for y<sup>e</sup> coming out of the receipts if you will in interest y<sup>r</sup> self you may give me orders and if no ship comes in answer to this before the drawing shall buy you one at y<sup>e</sup> then market price A Dieu.

My respect to Mr. David Tavaréz if with you and tell him that his mother is well. Who has sent me One hundred moidoirs to remit him which I have done at Jamaica consigned to Benj. & David Tavares. acp. their jointed orders.

Dearest Brother,

I have received all your kind letters to me, and am glad you joy your health. God grant it to you ever. we are very well and desire to you heartily. Brothers' family are all very well and send their love to you. The doctor goes on in his practice and seems to agree pretty well with the fraternity. Several matches have been proposed to him, but noting has come out as they inform. Sen<sup>a</sup> Rachel dyed abt eleven days after her son Abraham and in less then that time after a mach was concluded between her son Isaac and the daughter of Eliau Mendez. Jacob Alvares junr. his niece; when they acquainted me with the conclusion I seem to remark the short time after so much mourning, which has affronted them somewhat and I little mind; no news in our nation worth acquainting you with, and for publik ones I do not enquire after which will oblige me to be short. I return you many thanks for my pickles, which are very fine. You supply me so plentifully that I have sauce to my victuals from one year to the other. I hope now you will be able to conclude D Peisters affairs. may that and everything else answer to your satisfaction as is my constant wish. I have sent on board one of the Ships a small cask directed to you with some Spanish peas and sugar which sues your acceptance, begging God to grant you health, prosperity, I remain your very loving Sister,

RABECA MENDES SEIXAS.

No. 4. A copy of a letter of Mrs. Rebecca Mendes Seixas of London to her brother, Isaac Mendes Seixas, in New York viz. "Received Augt 21 1766, per Packet."

LONDON the 13<sup>th</sup> June, 1766.

Dear & beloved Brother

I find myself favored with your two letters of the 4<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> March, the one as well as the other move me in such a manner that could I remedy your necessities & distress agreeable to my inclination you may rely I would certainly do it, and in order that you may in some measure be sensible of it, I let you know that I am determind to take possession of the Estate, our Dec<sup>d</sup>. Father left for which purpose I have taken the advice and Counsel of the best Lawyers here and intend after to make my will in authentic form by an attorney in order to avoid uneasiness after my death which in substance is as follows. That during your life may be paid to you the interest of the Estate for your subsistance; after

your decease to pay your spouse the interest of £700 during her life only, and your sons and daughters the interest of £1200 divided in equal parts, each their equal proportion for their support and the Capital to be delivered them when they shall come at the age of Twenty one years, and in case they may be any of age to deliver them their parts directly after your decease; also leave that after the death of your wife the £700 that are reserved for her support may be divided among the abovementioned your children in the same manner as is already expressed. This, my Dear Brother, is in substance the Contents of the will I propose to make in respect to the Estate left by our father; and that has been the motive that I have not let you know before as it was about four months before I could get the most principal opinion and all for your advantage & that of your family and to avoid embarassments after my death; You'll take notice that from the said Estate I intend to reimburse myself of £202.10.6 you are in my debt as appears by the acct. which is taken from the Books of my Loving & Dec<sup>d</sup>: husband which I do not remmit at present to avoid so great a postage but shall send it without fail by the first ship that goes to your port. In case you should judge that you can establish any of your sons & maybe your desire that I should release you a sum to do it I shall have no objection to do it provided it does not exceed the sum of Two hundred Pounds Sterig, for which you may draw on me or my son in law Danl. Brandon Seixas, or you may order that sum Layd out in some sort of goods which I leave you to order as you may direct for the advantage of your family. I do not resolve to release you a greater sum as no person can answer for the uncertainty of life as I wish that during yours you may always have something to support and educate your children while in the world. Besides that I can not know wether the public funds will fall from the 3 p<sup>ct</sup> to 2 as has happened in other stocks that from 4p<sup>ct</sup> they fell to 3, as I am always to secure you the sum of Thirty Pounds annually. But in case you should not resolve that I should release you the said sum of £200 Besides the Amount of the Interest of the Estate and you are willing for the term of ten years successively to draw for £20 more you may do it in the suposition that by these means it does not exceed the aforesaid sum of £200, when you may be certain that neither I nor anything belonging to me will pretend to defraud the Estate of one single farthing of which you may be certain and easy. The Estate of our Deceased father consists of £1000 annuity at 3 p<sup>ct</sup>, £500 India annuity at 3pct, & £400 South Sea annuity at 3p<sup>ct</sup>, all which amounts to £1900,

the interest of which is £57 p. annum, and if you resolve that I should release you the above sum of £200 and I reimbursed of what you are in my debt you may draw every year on me or my son in law for £45. and in case you should rather chuse the £20 for the term of 10 years you may then draw for £71 each year, which I leave to your determination & beg you'll advise me with brevity that I may act accordingly.

I am now to acquaint you that God has been pleased to grant my daughter a very fine son, tho something smaller than common as it came at the seven months, but we are in great hopes that it may live as many others have done, of which we crave your joy. The letter you sent me I ordered delivered in his own hand, When I write you by a merchantship shall send to know if there is any answer. I am sorry that you enjoy so poor state of health as you inform me. May the Most High permit that at the receipt of this you may find yourself entirely recovered for the relief of your family, to whom I wish every felicity. as to myself, I go on as the Almighty pleases. I have retired into the country with my family, with an intention of living there, both summer and winter, to see if I can recover a better state of health; My son in law, daughter, and grandson are all in health and desire to be kindly remembred with our most tender love. After having wrote this I received your Letter by the hand of Hazan Pinto dated the 26th of April; as it contains nothing new to answer I offer the foregoing as a reply and remain, praying the Almighty to preserve your life for many years as desires, Your loving & affecte sister

(is signed) REBECA MENDES SEIXAS.

The foregoing is a translation, the original being in Spanish, copy of which it is unnecessary to take [J. J. L.].

No. 5. Duplicate of the foregoing No. 4 in Spanish with a postscript, a translation of which follows:

We are grateful to God for the  
17th of June

Beloved and dear Brother:

The tenth is a copy of my last letter by [packet ?] and as the vessel is about to sail, I enclose herewith copy of our accounts in the form in which I find them in the books of my deceased and beloved husband, which I beg you will kindly examine. You will find the amount to be £202.10.6, the result of all our accounts and reckonings. . . .

Hoping this finds you in better health is the wish of your beloved sister who loves and always wishes you well.

REBECCA MENDES SEIXAS

£202.10.6

No. 6. Copy of a translated letter from Mrs. Rebecca Mendez Seixas, London, to Isaac M. Seixas, New York. A copy of the Spanish original is also in the Collection.

LONDON, 12<sup>th</sup> February 1767.

Dear & Beloved Brother,

I find myself favour'd with three of your letters viz<sup>t</sup>, the 27<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup>, 2<sup>d</sup> of Sept<sup>r</sup>, & 23<sup>d</sup> Decem<sup>r</sup>, to which I did not immediately give answer, persuaded that your last would have been anticipated, which I now do, and was glad to hear from you and am grieved to the heart you suffer indispositions for I wish you a better and more prosperous health in company of your family. I continue with my indispositions. But in every state ready to give you pleasure in everything that may be in my power as a sister that so much loves and esteems you. My daughter, son in law and Grand Son enjoy their health, thanks to God; they received your remembrance and duplicate the same to you.

In due time I was presented with your Bill for £45 to the order of Hayman Levy which I accepted and paid and is noted in Book. The 4<sup>th</sup> Curr<sup>t</sup> was presented me your Bill for £140 Sterlg at 40 days sight to the order of your son, my nephew Moses Seixas, indorsed to Moses Franks, which I have accepted and will pay it when due. I observe you say you have drawn another bill for £60 to compleat the sum I promised to release you of £200; but to the present it has not come to my hand; as soon as it's presented I shall give it that honour it deserves. I observe you propose to me that if the rest of our Fathers Estate was there, you could obtain from the Merchants an interest of 7p<sup>ret</sup> which I do not doubt. But its not in my power to release you no other sum than that I now release you, by reason of my being obliged, by a clause in our dec<sup>d</sup> father's will, to keep in the fund a sum sufficient to produce the interest of £30 annually, and as I cannot foresee whether the public Securities will come to less than 3pct, I always ought for my Security & that of my family reserve an equivalent sum for the annuity of £30. In that conformity, (besides my being advised in that case you'll see that I can not act any other ways to the contrary), I hope you never will insist or depend on my releasing



you any other sum, for in truth I can not do it, Even if I would for the reasons assigned. I was glad to hear that your son Moses is so well established. I hope in God that he may in every thing be prosperous and that he may act as a good son; he has wrote me to which I do not now answer him, but shall do it by first ship. I intend writing him largely by the first vessel & send him a copy of my will in the form I have made it that at all times the truth and openness with which I treat you may appear, and that no person may dare to presume that my intentions are or have been to defraud a single farthin of our dec<sup>d</sup> fathers estate, notwithstanding I have a right to it; for if I was even to see myself destitute of all necessaries for my own subsistence I should never benefit myself by that right. These same were the intentions of my dear & beloved husband, in which you and your family may rest satisfied. I, my daughter and son in law have retired into the country as I have already informd you, to a place called Humerston, distant from London 4 miles, where we may live together. May God give you health and more ease. Conform yourself to all that the Almighty does. I do the same, or I should run crazy; for my anguish is yet so fresh in my mind as the same hour in which God was pleased to deprive me of my beloved Companion. I don't doubt, but he is enjoying rest & glory for he was deserving of all. May the Lord order all that may best for me and preserve you for many years From Your most Loving Sister

Signd, RABECA MENDES SEIXAS.

Read this as you can for my Eyes are very poor

The original in Spanish is endorsed: "Recd. April 14 1767  
Answered May 4, p Lawrence & the 6<sup>th</sup> p Davies."

No. 7. Copy of a letter, the original of which is in Spanish, from Mrs. Rebecca Mendes Seixas, London, to Mr. Isaac Mendes Seixas, New York. Copies of the original and the translation are among the Collection.

LONDON, 4<sup>th</sup> of March 1767.

Beloved Brother,

My last of the 12<sup>th</sup> Febry by Packet I confirm; since which I am favoured with your letters of the 23<sup>d</sup> Decem<sup>r</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> Janu<sup>r</sup>: in which you inform me of the bad state of health you enjoy, which grieves me to my soul as I wish you a most perfect health. I get along as

God pleases with my infirmities. But as at our time of life is not found, nor can it be expected, that vigour of our youth we must conform ourselves with the determinations of the most High in this Winter of our old age. My daughter, son in Law, & grand Son, enjoy their health & ready to give you pleasure. I observe the resolution you have taken of seeing this once more in your life; giving for a reason of this voyage that provided you do not receive a letter from me before Pesah, without considering that the reason for my not writing you before proceeded from my being expecting the Bills of Exch<sup>e</sup> for the £200 that I informed you, you might draw on me for; of which sum there has not been presented me as yet but one Bill for £140. But as I now find you form your complaint without cause, I cannot omit to tell you that the affection, love and zeal I treat you with and have always done, is not deserving of the injustice you do me in pretending to expose your life to the risks of the seas; abandon your family & to my entire anguish if by my means you should in the voyage loose your life. Consider well what you do and do not for the pleasure of once more seeing one another expose yourself to the risks of a long voyage at your age and full of infirmities. Besides, if by this intended voyage, you have any intention of persuading me to release you any other sum than what I have already done or that I shall comply with your proposal of releasing you all, in order that you may there make a greater interest, I must tell you that my resolution is not to release anything, more than what I have done, being desirous of preserving for you a sum with which you may be supported the rest of your life; at least for a subsistence you may rest assured that all the persuasions will not be able to move to act an action in which I know I should do an injustice to myself for the love I bare you & to your children by exposing them to the risk to which I should expose them of remaining without any estate whatever, and finally its contrary to the will and pleasure of our Dec<sup>d</sup> father and of my Dear & Beloved Dec<sup>d</sup> husband; neither do I think that by acting so I do you any injustice. I remit you enclosed a copy of my will, which is made by the hand of a Lawyer; respecting your affairs, which you'll be pleased to preserve in order, that it may at all times appear of the truth & Sincerity with which I treat you; always attentive to your preservation. I beg that in the first you write me, you will let me know if you have examined the accts. I sent you and if you found them in the conformity, that I suppose that you send a receipt for

all the sums you have received to this day, for which I shall be much obliged to you; for I wish to leave my affairs in the most clearest manner possible to avoid all disputes after my death. I hope, my dear brother, you will not put any bad construction on anything I here write you, for my intention is not to offend you in anything but only to consult your interest to the best of my understanding. God grant you life and ease agreeable to the wishes of this your sister that loves & esteems you.

(Signed) RABECCA MENDES SEIXAS.

Remembering that when you married your daughter you might have given her something, I now consult you whether it is or is not your will that your said daughter shall have an equal share with the rest of your children, which I desire you'll inform me by the first opportunity that may offer for this for my government. By the packet which will depart from here in 15 days I shall write you of what may offer

*On the same paper*

March 16, 1767

Dear Brother,

The foregoing is Copy of my last via York, since which, have not had the pleasure of any letter from you, nor has the bill for the £60 which lacks to complete the £200 been yet presented and having no subject on which I can enlarge, which I shall do by the first opportunity permit me to close this with my prayers to God to grant you a good state of health and that you make use of that which attend us which is ready at your disposal. as ever From this your loving Sister,

(Signed) RABECCA MENDES SEIXAS.

Let me know if you chuse I should send you Monfort's Bond & Release or if I shall burn them.

The original in Spanish endorsed "By Phoenix, Capt. Barnard For New York." "Recd. May 10<sup>th</sup>, 1767."

No. 8. Copy of a letter from Mrs. Rebecca Mendez Seixas of London to Isaac Mendes Seixas of New York, viz.

LONDON, May 11, 1769.

My Dear Brother,

Yours of 15 May, October 23, Jan 5 & March 21, all came duly to hand to which I have not answered, my health for some time being

so poorly that I have heardily any Speretts to do it. I am sorry to understand by yours that you don't injoy your health, we must both sumit to the will of God—with patience. My Doughter, Son and Children are well and desiars to be kindle remubered to you, and I partekular and bag you would excuse my not writing so often as I should. I have paid the Bill you drew on me p £45 payable to Franks, and as I had payed £11.2 to Hayman levi afore, when you draw next for your anuity you will make it only £33.18 which will bring it write to the sum of £45. I have considered about the recit you desiar mi to write and send for you to sine. I think if you write upon the back of the acont<sup>s</sup> I sent you the enclosed copy and Sign by you and sent to me by the first oportunetty, it will do; these I do that when plesse God to take way, there may not be the lest room for disput of nether side, which is all my aim. I hope thow I have been neglectfull in not writing to you that you will not deprive me of hearing from you by all the oportunets that offert, whicking you health and hapeness, I remaine and am, Deares Brother,

Your loveing Sister,

RABECA MENDES SEIXAS.

No. 9. Letter of Mrs. Rebecca Mendes Seixas, London, addressed "to Mr. Isaac Seixas, Merchant at New York, p. Captn. Meader, W. G. P." and endorsed: "Rec<sup>d</sup>: p<sup>r</sup> Cap<sup>n</sup>. Cooper July 27, ans<sup>d</sup>. by D<sup>o</sup> Augt. 16", viz:

May 25, 1772.

My Dear Brother,

After the silence of almost a twelve months which has made me very uneasy, I receved yours of the 22<sup>d</sup> of March, wherein you seem to resent my writing you word not to draw on me till your ann<sup>t</sup>. was due and as I then gave you my reasons for it I need not make a repetion of them, only I desire that you may draw on me against next Noveiber when your ann<sup>t</sup>: will become dew and so every twelve months efeter; for I would not keep you a day out of it when it is your right to have it nor could I conveneatly do other ways would not have mention it afore. I have writen to you severall times and have had no answer; in the last of January 22, p<sup>r</sup> the *London Cap<sup>n</sup> Chamerz*, I acquainted you that our brother Pedro was departed this life the 4<sup>th</sup> of January, being bed ridden for some time. I make a repetion of it as by the time of your you must had receved it. I can not think how my letters

misses coming to your heands, for I am sure they are put in the bag. and if you was to write often to me I should certainly have them, and let me beg of you for the futire not to keep me so long without hearing from you and be ubliged to make enquiars of every body what news from your place. You may think I dont remember you, but I do assure you, you rong me in so doing. I hope you and family injoy your health; as for myself I cannot breg of more than creeping on. My son and daughter and little flock are all very well and both them and me bag to be kindly remembred to you Dear Brother I must entreat you to have a better opinion of me then to think that I would write anything to give him umbrage if it was in my power to do other ways, and once more desiaring to hear from you, I remane as allways was and will be,

Your loveing Sister till Death,

RABECA MENDES SEIXAS

No. 10. Letter from Mrs. Rebecca Mendes Seixas, Kingston, Jamacia, to "Mr. Isaac Mendes Seixas, Merch<sup>t</sup>, Stratford, Connecticut State."<sup>1</sup> On the enclosure is written "1779, My Sister's letter from Jamaica Received October 15, answered the 18 by a Flagg v<sup>a</sup> New York, & Nov. 26 by Cap<sup>n</sup>. Ben<sup>ed</sup> Wright v<sup>a</sup>: Rhode Island."

KINGSTON, JAMAICA, 26 July 1779.

Dear Brother Isaac Mendes Seixas.

You will much wonder to see a letter from me dated at this place where we arrived last year about this time. My sons in law's affairs in this Island being very extensive and his brother dying suden in this place, obliged him to come and see himself righted and as I could not part from him and my daughter have followed them here and are in hopes as soon as the war is at an end to go home again. Before I left England I made all the inquiry possible to find a way how to forward you a few lines, but all in vain as I could not learn where the troubles of America had carried you in, and being now informed that some Flags of Truce are often coming and going from New York to several places of America, I am in hopes by means of your son Moses at Rhode Island (under whose cover these goes) that these few lines will

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<sup>1</sup> [The Seixas family with several other patriots removed from New York to Stratford, Conn., upon the occupation of the city by the British. See *Publications*, No. 2, p. 56j].

come to your hand, & knowing where I am you may find an opportunity of drawing on me for your annuity and you may rest assured your Bills will allways meet with due honor.

I hope these will find you & family in health. I have been for some time past in a poor state of health but thank God no more than what may be expect<sup>d</sup> at my time of life. My son in law and daughter beg to be remembred to you, & am, Dear Brother,

Your affectionate Sister,

RABECA MENDES SEIXAS.

P. S. Please to direct here to M<sup>r</sup> Dan<sup>l</sup> Brandon Seixas Merch<sup>t</sup>.

“A copy of so much of the will of Mrs. Rebecca Mendes Seixas as relates to her brother Mr. Isaac Mendes Seixas, his wife and children.” [This covers several pages and purports to be a copy made by Grace Nathan.]

On the half sheet used as an envelope, the following is written on the inside, *not by Mrs Nathan*.

I shall git that letter copyed that was translated by the next oppertunity and shall by the first oppertunity send you sum others, a privet one, for it will cost tu much by Post besides the Risk, and I begg you not to sell any more till you hear of me, am very glad to hear you are all well. I am so uneasy and so flusterd that I dont know what to say first. It is 2 oclock and must conclude wishin you all your health and am yours with love to all—pray let me hear of you all as sune as you can, how com you not to answur G letter. I believe he is quite in the Dumps. Write him next.

(no signature—J. J. L.)

On the same paper in the handwriting of Mrs. Grace Nathan, viz:

The good old Lady has been rather discomposed since the receipt of yours; for her I am really sorry Mrs. Seixas should act so repugnant to her own former agreements at the dictates of conscience and Justice. You may depend that none of us at this place will interfere on the subject & shall write brother A. by first offer to discontinue his lately taken up correspondence. Mama desires youll tell Mr. Henry that she has applied to Mr. Levy his Partner to settle brother Abrahams demand & that he says 'tis not in his

power, as Mr H. has all the papers relative to the case and begs you to request Mr. H. to bring them with should he come this way, and if not to send them by first private conveyance.

With my love to all am yours

G. N.

The Envelop addressed

Mr. Moses Seixas

Merchant

New Port

[B. IV, pp. 217-48]

The following Scrap is from a newspaper published in New York, taken from a Newport paper. The last clause shows it was copied a short time after the burial. This was given to me by Miss Ella Phillips, granddaughter of Mr. Seixas.

NEWPORT, Dec. 2 [1809].

We yesterday received from New York, the long expected but melancholy intelligence of the death of Mr. MOSES SEIXAS, of this town. After having manfully sustained a long and painful disease, or rather a complication of diseases, he was, on the 29th of last month, at the advanced age of sixty-six years, "gathered to his Fathers."

Mr. SEIXAS has left behind him an unblemished reputation. He is deeply lamented; not only by his family and friends, to whom his domestic virtues justly endeared him, but by the community at large, who highly respected him as a useful, honest and worthy man. Born a Jew, and strictly "taught according to the perfect manner of the law of his Fathers," he was, but without bigotry, zealous and uniform in the profession of his faith.

As a Merchant, he united to an unimpeached integrity, the valuable qualities of method, precision, and punctuality, in the transaction of business. These qualities fitted him for, and rendered him peculiarly useful in the station of Cashier of the Bank of Rhode Island, a place which he held from the institution of that bank until his death.

Liberal in his opinions, and compassionate in his feelings he was an active member of the charitable society of "Freemasons," and was, until his resignation, a few months before his death, Master of St. John's Lodge in this town, and Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State.

We are anxious to avoid all excessive praise, and solicitous not to overdo with minuteness of panegyric, this sincere tribute to the memory of a respected fellow-citizen. In short, we have said nothing but what all who knew Mr. Seixas will warmly join in saying. That he was an honest man, an "accepted Mason," and an "Israelite without guile."

(The remains of Mr. Seixas were interred at Newport on the 3d instant with masonic honours.)

[B. III, p. 104]

David G. Seixas son of Rev<sup>d</sup> Gershom Seixas & Anne Seixas.

1812 to 1814, Manufactured crockery in Philadelphia.

1818, Established the Deaf and Dumb Institute in Philadelphia.

Afterward Manufactured Sealing wax and visiting cards in New York.

1834, Established a Brewery in New York.

1840, Introduced Daguerreotype in this country. Later invented the "Axilla Shields."

He died at South Bend, Indiana, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 1864.

[B. IV, p. 265]



ITEMS RELATING TO THE SIMSON FAMILY, NEW YORK.

Joseph Simson came from Germany, some place on the Rhine, with an uncle name not known.<sup>1</sup> He was then quite a young man and followed mercantile pursuits. He married a Jersey lady, named Rebecca Isaacks.

Their sons were Solomon and Sampson.<sup>2</sup>

Solomon Simson married Sarah Mears, 1768, Oct. 26, 5529 Hesvan 22, in New York. Their children were Sampson, Joseph, Rebecca, Jochebed and Ellen.

Rebecca, married Abraham Isaacks.

Jochebed, died unmarried.

Ellen, died unmarried.

Transcribed from the Records of the Congregation, Vol. 1, Folio 40; 1771, Sep. 14, 5532 Tisri 7, Sunday, Born Jochebed daughter of Solomon Simson of N. Y.

" 41; 1772 July 29, 5532 Tamuz 28, Wednesday, Died Mrs. Frumet Simson in New York.

" 42; 1773 May 6, 5533 Iyar 13, Thursday, Born Helena daughter of Solomon Simson of New York.

" 42; 1773 Aug. 29, 5533 Elool 10, Sunday, Died Sampson Simson in New York.

" 43; 1774 July 25, 5534 Menahem 17, Monday, Born Frumet daughter of Solomon Simson in New York.  
Died same year Sep. 1, Elul 24.

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<sup>1</sup> In 1768, upon the authority of Mrs. Ansel Leo, his great-granddaughter. [Joseph Simson came to America in 1718 with his uncle Nathan Simson, who had sisters residing at Bonn, Cologne and Amsterdam. See Samuel Oppenheim, *Publications*, No. 25, pp. 88-90.]

<sup>2</sup> [Sampson Simson was a merchant and a distinguished member of the Chamber of Commerce. See Myer S. Isaacs, *Publications*, No. 10, pp. 109-117.

Their daughter was Sarah who married Raphael Jacobs. See Samuel Oppenheim, *ibid.*, No. 25, p. 90.]

Folio34; 1769 Sep. 19, 5529 Elul 17, Tuesday, in New York, Born Rebeka daughter of Solomon Simson.

" 59; 1807 May 15, *B'rith* \* of Solomon, son of Joseph and Frances Simson, 8 days old. First child named by Rev. Gershom Seixas, the issue of a father that was named by him—

" 66; 1814 Oct. 30, 5575 Hesvan 16, Died Miss Joice Simson daughter of late Solomon Simson.

" 72; 1819 Sep. 30, 5580 Tisree 11, Died Helena, daughter of Solomon Simson at the farm of her brother Samson. Buried next day in the Chatham Street Burial Ground.

### Marriages from Record Book Vol. 1.

Folio33a, 1768 Oct. 26, 5529 Heshvan 22, Wednesday Solomon Simson & Sarah Mears in N. Y.

" 58, 1806 June 4, 5566 Sivan, Joseph Simson & Frances Isaacs.

" 19, 1761 Dec. 2, 5522 Kislef 6, David Jacobs Levy & Ritcha, daughter of late Samuel Simsons.

" 14, 1760 Oct. 8, 5521 Tishri 28, Jacob Isaac & Miss Rebecca Mears.

" 32, 1767 March 18, 5527 Ve Adar 17, Wednesday, Myer Myers & Joyce Mears in N. Y.

" 58, 1806 June 18, 5566 Tamuz 2<sup>d</sup>, Abm. Isaacs & Rebecca Simson.

" 158, 1831 Nov. 23, 5592 Kislev 18, Abm. Hart of Phil<sup>a</sup> & Rebecca, d. of Samson M Isaacks.

### Items of family of Isaacks, Record Book Vol. 1.

Folio20, 1763 Feb. 8, 5523 Shebat 25, at Jamaica, Long Island, Born Joseph, son of Isaac Isaacs.

" 26, 1765 March 8, 5525 Adar 15, same place, Born Zeby, son as above.

" 43, 1774 Feb 11, 5534 Shebat 30, Friday, Born Frumet, daughter of Moses Isaacks in New York.

Folio 43, 1774 July 20, 5534 Menahem 12, in N. Y., Born Isaac of Abm. Isaacs.

" 47, 1775 Nov. 20, 5536 Heshvan 27, in N. Y., Born Judah, son of Moses Isaacks in N. Y. Died 5<sup>th</sup> day of *Pesach* \* following.

" " 1775, No date, Born Gitlah of Abm. Isaacs.

" 61, 1809 Aug. 15, 5569 Ab 19, Died Fanny Isaacs, late Mrs. Lazarus, wife of Michael Isaacs.

1819 June 6, 5579 Sivan 13, Died Rachel, widow of Moses Isaacs, 72 years old, name changed Judith Rachel Bat Jehudah.

Mrs. Leo says her mother's maiden name was Frances Isaacs. Her maternal grandmother was Rachel Isaacs *née* Mears.

[B. I, No. 85]

Likeness of Mr. Joseph Simson. The original is in possession of his great granddaughter, Mrs. Ansel Leo who was before marriage Jessy or Jochebed Simson. The portrait was taken by a French artist named Ramage. Mr. Ramage being struck by the patriarchal appearance of the old gentleman (then more than 100 years old) as he was looking out of his window, entered the house and entreated him and his family for the privilege of painting his miniature, to which after great persuasion he assented.

[B. I, No. 84]

Sketch of Sampson Simson from *The Occident*, Vol. 12, pp. 38-39, April 1854.

Likeness of Sampson Simson, Esq., from an original painting in possession of his niece, Mrs. Ansel Leo, in the old homestead at Yonkers. This lady with her son, Sampson Simson Leo, inherited most of the property of Mr. Simson.

I had frequently heard asserted that Mr. Sampson Simson, when he graduated from Columbia College in 1800 delivered, at the commencement, an address in Hebrew. Recently exam-

ining a bundle of old papers that were sent to me by the descendants of Rev. Gershom Mendes Seixas who was one of the Trustees of said College, I found that which I think must have been the rough sketch of this address. Judging from the few lines that precede the composition it was submitted to Mr. Seixas for his approval or correction. I thought proper here to preserve the original and to give a copy thereof distinctly written.

[Here follows the original draft in Hebrew of Mr. Simson's address.]

TRANSLATION OF HEBREW ADDRESS BY SAMPSON SIMSON AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE IN THE YEAR 1800.

One of the professors of Columbia College has requested me to write something for Master Sampson to speak in public in the holy tongue on Commencement day, should you not object to his request.

Although not accustomed to speak in public, I rise with perfect confidence that you will kindly consent to listen to me and I earnestly crave your indulgence for any error I may commit in the course of my address. And if I have found grace in your eyes I shall essay to speak concerning my brethren residing in this land. It is now more than 150 years, since Israelites first came to this country, at the time when this province was under the dominion of Holland, but until now no one of them or their children has on a similar occasion been permitted thus to address a word in public, and I am a descendant of one of those who were among the first settlers here. It is known to you, that at the time when this province, then called New Amsterdam, was exchanged for the colony of Surinam, all the inhabitants remaining here came under the dominion of England. Among them were the Jews who until then could only congregate for worship in private rooms in their own dwellings until the year 5490 [1730] (according as we reckon in this city of New York). It was then that our regular Synagogue was built, where we have been serving Almighty God unmolested for upwards of seventy years. During this long period the Jews have not been as numerous as the other sects, for only few in number they came hither; but now, behold the Lord has enlarged and increased in this and in all the other prov-

inces of these United States the descendants of those few families that came from Holland in the year 5420 [1660], one hundred and forty years ago. Among these was one man with his wife, one son and four daughters. The father and son died soon after they had reached this place, leaving the wife with her four daughters and behold they have exalted themselves in this city, and from them sprang forth many of the Congregation now known as "Shearith Israel". Afterwards, in the year 1696, there came from France some families by the way of England, who brought with them letters of denization from the king, constituting them freemen throughout all the provinces under his dominion. And in the year 1776 at the time when the people of this country stood up like one man in the cause of liberty and independence every Israelite that was among them rose up likewise and united in their efforts to promote the Country's peace & prosperity. And even now we endeavor to sustain the government of these provinces, free of any allegiance to any other whatsoever, monarchial or republican, and we exclaim in the language of King David, "Rid us, (O Lord!) from the hand of the children of the stranger, whose mouth speaketh vanity and whose right hand is the right hand of falsehood."

[B. I, No. 73]

# ITEMS RELATING TO THE SOLOMONS FAMILY, NEW YORK

## Levy Solomons Sr.

Died in Montreal, Lower Canada, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 1792, aged about 62 or 63 years.

Rebecca Solomons (his 2<sup>d</sup> wife) died in her chair at the Hagadah Table, 1<sup>st</sup> night of Passover, the 27<sup>th</sup> of March 1812.

Their children were:

Levy Solomons Born in Montreal, Decbr. 23, 1771.

Benjamin " " " "

Mary (Polly) " " " married man named Franks.<sup>1</sup>

Sarah (Sally) " " " married a Gentile McCord.

Elizabeth (Betsy) " " " (Single).

Catharine (Kitty) " " " married a Gentile Aird.

Jessica (Jessie) " " " Single.

Rachel " " " married Henry or Harry Joseph.

Mrs. Sarah McCord died in Montreal, June 13, 1812, aged 42 or 43 years.

Levy Solomons, born in Montreal, Decbr. 23<sup>d</sup>, 1771, Died in New York, June 11, 1823.

Married Catharine Manuel, July 29, 1801.

She was born in London, England, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1768, and came to this country with her uncle Samuel Judah, and died in New York, March 29, 1852, aged 85 years.

[B. IV, pp. 264-65]

1790 May 7<sup>th</sup>, Stephen Van Rensselaer, Esquire, Lord and Proprietor of the manor of Rensselaerwyck of the County of Albany and State of New York, leased to James Caldwell of Albany a piece of land containing 5 1/10 acres named Rensselaerville situate, lying & being in Watervliet in the said manor & county for 20 years. This lease, a copy of which is in this

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<sup>1</sup> [Abraham Franks. See "The Jewish Encyclopedia," s. v. Levy Solomons.]

Collection, was renewed and on the 10<sup>th</sup> of October, 1820, James Caldwell transferred the lease to Levy Solomons.

[B. IV, p. 266]

1821 Janry 10, Lease renewed to Levy Solomons, assignee of James Caldwell, for seven years from 7<sup>th</sup> of May, 1821 for \$100 annually instead of the amount mentioned before.

[B. IV, p. 275]

1829 March 29, Lease extended for one year more; \$200 per annum.

[B. IV, p. 275]

At this place Mr. Levy Solomons carried on his manufactory of Snuff, Chocolate &ca. for a considerable time.

[B. IV, p. 275]

Pencil sketch of Rensselaer Ville, portion of the Manor of Rensselaer Wyck, County of Albany, State of New York, leased by Levy Solomons in 1829.

[B. IV, p. 276]

Copy of advertisement for Maccaba upon the cover of a Snuff-box; Levy Solomons, Albany, & Levy Solomons and Co., Montreal.

[B. IV, pp. 270-71]

1801 July 29<sup>th</sup>, Married in New York by Rev<sup>d</sup>. Gershom M. Seixas, Levy Solomons of Albany, N. Y. and Katherine Manuel of New York City.

Of this marriage I have seen a translation of the *Ketubah* \* certified by Rev<sup>d</sup>. Gershom M. Seixas with his seal of office attached. The impression is in sealing wax. Benjamin Seixas and Bernard Hart were witnesses to the document.

The above Levy Solomons was the father of Lucius Levy Solomons.

Rev<sup>d</sup>. Gershom M. Seixas was the father of Selina Seixas.

1824, March 31<sup>st</sup>, Married in Philadelphia by Mr. Levi Phillips (officiating at the nuptial ceremony), Lucius Levy Solomons to Selina Seixas. Samuel Hays and H. Marks were witnesses to the marriage. They were the parents of Seixas and Moses Solomons.

[B. IV, p. 272]

Copy of a printed notice or poster for Directors' meeting of the Lake George Steamboat Company for April 1, 1819, signed by James Caldwell. Property of Mr. Moses Solomons, grandson of Mr. Levy Solomons, partner in business with James Caldwell.

[B. IV, p. 277]



MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS RELATING TO JEWS IN NEW YORK.

From my Jewish Calender. [J. J. L.]

The first settlement of Jews in New York is supposed to have been about the year 5410 = 1650. . . .<sup>1</sup>

1654—Arrival of Jews.

1655—Petition of Salvador d'Andrade.

1655—Order denying petition for Jewish burying ground.

“ exempting Jews from militia duty and exacting commutation fee.

Asser Levy Petition.

Mention of Jews by Governors Andros and Dongan [1678 and 1683 respectively] in “Documentary History of the State of New York,” Vol. 1, pp. 92, 186.

Items as to David Ferrara and Jacob Cohen.

1656—Order granting burying place to Jews.

1685—Permission for public worship refused.

1710—Petition of Abraham De Lucena for exemption.

[B. V, pp. 290-92]

From Valentine's “Manual”, 1850.

EXTRACT FROM THE OATH BY THE WORSHIPFUL MAGISTRACY OF  
N. Y. IN 1673.

That we shall promote the welfare of this city and its inhabitants, maintain in all things the pure and true Christian Religion, conformably to the word of God and the order of the Sinod of Dordrecht, as taught in the Church of Netherland &ca.

[B. V, p. 221]

[The following items are not copied because the material has been published independently heretofore.]

From “Calendar of New York Historical Manuscripts in the office of the Secretary of State, Albany, N. Y.” Edited by E. B.

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<sup>1</sup> [The Editors have not been able to find the authority for this statement.]

O'Callaghan. Albany. Printed. Weed, Parson &ca. Part 1st Dutch MSS., 1630-1664. Items taken from Part I, pp. 60, 150, 151, 155, 156, 157, 158, 160, 162, 163, 175, 184, 186, 280, 282, 289, 329, 330. Part II English MSS. Items taken from pp. 19, 22, 25, 33, 74, 85, 115, 119, 122, 130, 134, 147, 149, 150, 262, 304, 325, 371, 373, 378, 382, 391, 414, 430, 452, 453, 465, 471, 475, 481, 483, 493, 499, 502, 512, 515, 553, 554, 555, 562, 563, 658, 678, 682, 695, 703, 706, 710, 712, 715, 719, 723, 747, 754, 757, 759, 808.

[B. V, pp. 5-34]

From "History of the City of New York," by May L. Booth. New York. V. R. Clark, 1867. Items taken from pp. 55, 581 and 654.

[B. V, pp. 35-36]

From "The History of the Province of New York from the First Discovery to the Year 1732" by William Smith, A. M. London, 1757. Items taken from p. 194.

[B. V, p. 37]

From Dd. T. Valentine's "History of the City of New York", 1853. Items taken from pp. 179, 302, 315, 321, 323, 325, 326, 338, 344, 366-378, 379, 385.

[B. V, pp. 37-45]

Jews and the Ordinance of New Netherland of August 28, 1655, exempting Jews from Military Service. Also O'Callaghan's note as to Jews of Amsterdam.

From O'Callaghan's "Laws & Ordinances of New Netherland, 1638-1674," p. 191. [See Max J. Kohler, *Publications*, No. 6, p. 87; Leon Huhner, *Publications*, No. 8, p. 9.]

[B. I, Nos. 3 & 4]

From "History of the New Netherlands, Province of New York and State of New York", 2 Vols., by William Dunlap; New York, 1839. Items taken from Vol. 1, pp. 318, 384; Vol. II, p. xliii, Appendix N; p. cxxvi, Appendix; cxxxi, Appendix; cxliii and clxxxix, Appendix.

[B. V, pp. 151-58]

From "The Journal of the Legislative Council of the Colony of New York, begun the 9th day of April 1691 and ended the 3d of

April 1755. Published by order of the Senate of New York—Albany. Weed, Parson and Company. Printed 1861."

[B. I, No. 75]

Valentine's "Manual of the Common Council of New York" for the year: 1844-1848 (Maps); 1849, p. 357; 1850, pp. 447, 484, 502, 505; 1851, pp. 359, 398; 1852, pp. 403, 405, 406, 500-503; 1853, pp. 479, 482, 487, 492; 1854, p. 524; 1855, pp. 482, 500, 502, 503, 510, 511, 513, 565, 573, 590; 1856, pp. 463, 469, 536; 1857, pp. 347, 415, 417, 428, 530-532, 541, 548, 556, 560, 577; 1858, pp. 562, 567, 587, 617; 1859, Map after p. 108, also pp. 406, 504, 541, 551, 565; 1860, pp. 529, 539, 540, 542, 545, 554-556, 562, 563, 612-615; 1861, pp. 520, 538, 543, 545, 569, 612, 617.

[B. V, pp. 136-50]

From Valentine's "Manual of the Corporation of the City of New York", for the year:

1858, p. 594; 1862, pp. 654, 728; 1865, pp. 552, 691, 701, 824, 841.

[B. V, pp. 117-35]

From "History of the State of New York" by John Romeyn Brodhead. 1st period, 1609-1664. Items taken from pp. 72, 385-393, 603.

[B. V, pp. 45-46]

From "The Market Book, containing An Historical Account of the Public Markets in the Cities of New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Brooklyn &ca" by Thomas F. De Voe. In 2 Volumes; Copyright. New York, 1862. Items taken from pp. 44-47, 49, 50, 54, 55, 202, 242, 267, 270. [See Samuel Oppenheim, *Publications*, No. 25, p. 31 ff.]

[B. V, pp. 47-64]

From "New York City during the American Revolution; being a Collection of original papers from the MS. in the possession of the Mercantile Library Association." 1861. Copyright. Item taken from Introduction, pp. 11 & 12.

[B. I, No. 81; B. V, pp. 65-66]

From "Documents relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York, procured in Holland, England and France." By

John Romeyn Brodhead, Esqr." Edited by E. B. O'Callaghan, M. D., LL. D. Albany, 1856. 10 Vols. 4° Indexed:

Vol. I, p. 244—Jews Speculate in Slaves in Brazil.

Vol. IV, p. 720—The Earl of Bellomont obtains money from Jews.

Vol. VI, pp. 56, 471—Jews not entitled to vote for members of assembly in the Province of New York.

Vol. VII, pp. 708, 709—Mohawk Indians carried to London for exhibition by New York Jews.

[B. V, pp. 66-76]

Legality of Election by Jewish Votes. From "Journal of the Votes and Proceedings of the General Assembly of the Colony of New York. Began the 9th day of April 1691 and ended the 27th of September 1743. 2 vols (folio) published by order of the general assembly of New York, MDCCLXIV, Page 712.

[B. V, p. 326]

Subscription by Jews towards the building of the steeple of Trinity Church in 1711, from "An Historical Sketch of Trinity Church, New York, by the Rev. William Berrian, D. D., the Rector of the Same. New York. Sanford and Swords. 139 Broadway. 1847." [See *Publications*, No. 3, p. 85; No. 4, p. 196; No. 6, p. 125; No. 14, p. 101.]

[B. I, No. 19]

From the N. Y. "Herald", Saturday June 12, 1869.

#### SUPREME COURT CHAMBERS.

The Trinity Church Corporation Muddle before Judge McCunn. *David Groesbeck vs. William E. Dunscomb and Morgan Dix.*—This case came up yesterday on demurrer to the complaint filed therein. The history of the litigation, which promises to be rich in developments, will be found in the amended answer annexed:

#### SUPERIOR COURT OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

*David Groesbeck vs. Wm. E. Dunscomb and Morgan Dix.*—In the amended complaint occurs the following: "The plaintiff also says that the purpose of the founders of the corporation of Trinity

Church was to prevent the increase of vice and immorality in the city of New York, and not merely to support the parasites of any sect. Also that the Jewish rabbi and his congregation contributed funds to build the original parish church of Trinity in this city."

[B. V, pp. 222-23]

Article in the *N. Y. Sun*, March 26, 1876, entitled "Old Trinity and the Jews," gives account of contributions by Jews to Trinity Church in 1711, with names and amounts.

[B. V, p. 223]

Inscription on a silver medal belonging to David Hays of New York.

This medal was given by the Mohel Elchanan bar Abraham to Moshe bar David in the year 5480=1719. [This is undoubtedly an error in transcription. The date should be 5544—1784.] This is Moses Hays, grandfather of David Hays, the present owner of the medal (the latter being the son of Benjn. Hays, formerly of West Chester County). This medal manufactured by Myers the silversmith and has the same trade mark as the Rimoniim [which were] manufactured 5490 [1730], property of Congregation.

The letters  $\aleph \gamma$  on the reverse of the medal evidently mean 41, the number of children thus far named by this *Mohel*.\*

[B. V, p. 317]

[The following is written on a slip of paper pasted in the book:]

*Elchanan bar Abraham.\** Outer line of the medal: *I, Elchanan son of Abraham lifted up my hands in the holy covenant to circumcise the boy—(inner line) Moses son of David on Monday, 5 Tishri, this day being the thirteenth since his birth in 5544 [1784].*

I saw a similar medal that he presented to Israel, son of Isaac Moses, named in 5544 [1784].

Drawings showing both sides of a silver medal with inscription in Hebrew, name "Myers" printed on one.

From "The New York Conspiracy; or a negro plot, with the Journal of the Proceedings against the Conspirators, at New York, in the years 1741-42, by Daniel Horsmanden. 4<sup>th</sup> Edition. New York, 1810."

[In 1741 the City of New York had a population of about 12,000 of whom 2,000 were negroes. A plot was discovered that the negroes were about to burn the city and its white inhabitants. A large number of negroes were arrested and punished. A few of these were slaves in Jewish families and references to these alone will be given here.]

"List of Negroes committed on account of the Conspiracy":

Cuffee of Lewis Gomez—Committed May 24—Arraigned June 6—  
Convicted June 8<sup>th</sup>—Burnt June 9.

Cajve, alias Africa of Mordecai Gomez—Committed June 26—  
Arraigned July 1—Confessed June 28—transported to Madeira.

Windsor of Sam<sup>l</sup> Myers Cohen—Committed June 25<sup>th</sup>—Arraigned  
July 1—Confessed June 30.

Hereford of Saml Myers Cohen—Committed June 29—Discharged  
July 2.

Jack of Judah Hays—Committed July 2—Discharged July 6.

Sawney<sup>1</sup> (Niblets' negro) before the grand jury testifies "That Cuffee (Gomez's) said he would burn his master's house."

Cuffee<sup>2</sup> and Quack (his confederate) were tried May 29<sup>th</sup> Friday and sentenced "to be chained to a stake and burnt to death." They were executed June 9<sup>th</sup>. Cuffee confessed that Sawney set fire to Mr. Machado's house.

Cajve<sup>3</sup> (or Africa) of Mordecai Gomez confessed, "he was made to swear to conceal the plot made known to him after the oath, to burn the city and kill the white people."

<sup>1</sup> Page 73.

<sup>2</sup> Pages 96, 97, 99, 133.

<sup>3</sup> Pages 213-14, 224.

July 1. "Cajve and others pleaded guilty and submitted to the mercy of the court."

Tuesday June 30. In<sup>1</sup> the confession of negro man "Brave Boy" (of Mr. Kiersteds), he implicated Lucena of Mr. Franks.

July 1. Windsor<sup>2</sup> of Samuel Myers Cohen "brought to the bar and arraigned on an indictment of conspiracy and pleaded guilty." His is among the names of 18 negroes recommended by the Jury to be inserted in a pardon, which was allowed.

July 2. The<sup>3</sup> Grand Jury recommended [Samuel] Myers Cohen's Hereford to the Judges to be discharged, they finding no sufficient evidence against him, whereon to found an indictment, and he was discharged accordingly.

July 6. "Judah<sup>4</sup> Hays' Jack was this day discharged by the third Justice pursuant to the recommendation of the Grand Jury, who did not credit the evidence of the negro London (Kelly's slave) which impeached him."

Friday May 1. The<sup>5</sup> king against Caesar and Prince (Negroes). Indictment "... for entering the dwelling house of Abraham Myers Cohen in this city, merchant, on the first day of March with intent then and there to commit some felony; and for feloniously stealing and carrying away then and there the goods and chattels of the said Abm Myers Cohen of the value of Five Pounds Sterling. . . ." "They pleaded not guilty." Among the 14 witnesses against the prisoners was Abm. Myers Cohen. "The evidence being summed up, which was very strong and full the Jury found them guilty of the indictments."

May 8. Prisoners sentenced to be hanged on Monday May 11<sup>th</sup>.

May 10. Sarah<sup>6</sup> (Niblets negro wench) accuses a fellow servant 16 or 17 years old, of the same owner named Sawney or Sandy of

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<sup>1</sup> Page 219.

<sup>2</sup> Pages 219, 224, 286, 318, 383.

<sup>3</sup> Pages 226, 230.

<sup>4</sup> Page 244.

<sup>5</sup> Pages 44, 51.

<sup>6</sup> Page 59.

being concerned in setting the fort on fire; "that he had likewise set Machado's house next door to his masters on fire."

May 25. Examination<sup>1</sup> of Sawney or Sandy Niblets' negro boy before the Grand Jury. He declared ". . . that he saw in his master's yard, Mr. Machado's negro wench called Diana put fire in the shingles of Mr. Machado's house, and on his telling of it and saying that it might be laid on him, she gave him four shillings to hold his tongue." Further, "that Diana (Mr. Machado's negro) in a passion because her mistress was angry with her took her own young child from her breast and laid it in the cold, that it froze to death."

June 17. "On<sup>2</sup> the trial of the 5 Spanish negroes, Mr. Gomez was sworn interpreter."

July 1. The 5 Spanish negroes were "sentenced to be hanged." "Mr. Gomez was directed to interpret what the Court delivered."

Mrs. Hogg<sup>3</sup> speaking of her robbery says there are "idle houses in the Jews Alley that the Sailors usually frequented."

Twenty white persons were taken in custody on account of the Conspiracy, 1741, of whom 4 were executed. Among these was John Ury or Jury.<sup>4</sup> "Committed June 24, arraigned July 15 & 22, convicted July 29, executed Aug. 29." He was reputed a Catholic priest and found guilty of taking part in the conspiracy to burn the city and kill the white people.

Thursday, Sept. 24. "This<sup>5</sup> day observed throughout the province as a day of public thanksgiving for the delivery of his Majestys Subjects here from the destruction wherewith they were so generally threatened by the late execrable conspiracy. The same was decently and reverently observed accordingly."

[B. I, No. 79]

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<sup>1</sup> Page 77.

<sup>2</sup> Pages 155, 222.

<sup>3</sup> Page 17.

<sup>4</sup> Page 321.

<sup>5</sup> Page 225.



From Onderdonk's "Queens County in Olden Times":

1758. Feb. 20. Stolen.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Isaac Isaacs offers 10 Shillings reward for a large silver spoon marked I I F. If offered to a silversmith, they are desired to stop it, and secure the thief.

1760. Oct. 19. Vendue<sup>2</sup> at Benjn. Hinchmans' Jamaica, of all sorts of dry goods (whole pieces and remnants) lately the effects of Hart Aaron, and Jacob Cohen of Flushing, Newton, Islip and Jericho. For six months' credit they will be sold very cheap. N. Y. Mercury.

[B. V, p. 4]

Correction by Rev. J. J. Lyons of numerous errors in "The Earliest Churches of New York and its Vicinity", by Gabriel P. Disosway, New York, 1865.

[B. 1, Nos. 52 & 53]

Memoranda of the Hendricks family furnished by Mr. Isaac Hendricks.

Aaron Hendricks went to England (from Holland) when Jews were recalled by Cromwell.

Uriah Hendricks	}	Settled in Newport in 1764, came to
Son of Aaron Hendricks		New York after the war of the Revolution.

Harmon Hendricks	}	was born in [New York, March 10,
Son of Uriah Hendricks		1771.]

The name of a branch of the family Mr. Isaac Hendricks thinks was "Oppenheim", or Mr. Aaron Hendricks' name might have been "Oppenheim".

[Uriah Hendricks above mentioned came to New York from London in 1755, according to his advertisement in a New York

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<sup>1</sup> Page 30.

<sup>2</sup> Page 33.

paper of that year, and is repeatedly mentioned in the Congregational Minutes. He was one of the few Jewish Tories in New York during the American Revolution. See *Publications*, No. 21, and Samuel Oppenheim, *ibid.*, No. 25, p. 123.]

[B. I, No. 66]

Papers relating to Jonas Phillips, grandfather of Messrs. Joshua, Isaac & Jonas N. Phillips of this city. The original documents are in possession of Mr. Joshua Phillips.

1. License as auctioneer, July 30, 1771, before the Revolution.

[See *Publications*, No. 1, p. 53; No. 2, p. 54.]

[B. I, No. 35]

2. Certificate of good character from Moses Lindo of Charlestown, South Carolina, July 13, 1773. [See *Publications*, No. 2, pp. 51-55; No. 12, p. 45.]

[B. I, No. 36]

3. Letter of Joshua Hart accompanying the foregoing letter, Charlestown, South Carolina, July 14, 1773.

[B. I, No. 37]

4. Copy of a printed Circular, November 27, 1776, concerning store at corner of Vine and Third Streets, Philadelphia.

[B. I, No. 38]

5. Printed permission to trade in Philadelphia, September 24, 1778. [See *Publications*, No. 2, pp. 179-180; No. 3, pp. 82-83; No. 6, pp. 53-54.]

[B. I, No. 40]

6. License as Auctioneer in New York, July 7th, 1786.

[B. I, No. 39]

"Catalogue of the Governors, Trustees and Officers and of the Alumni and other Graduates of Columbia College, originally Kings College, in the City of New York from 1754 to 1864," by D. Van Nostrand, 192 Broadway; 1754 to 1870 by D. Van Nostrand, 23 Murray St., New York, 1865, and edition of 1870.

**From List of Graduates:**

1774, Isaac Abrahams	1864, Samson American
1795, John H. Meier	1864, Chls. H. Kaufman
1800, Sampson Simson	1864, Isadore Mayer
1814, Henry R. Judah	1864, Jacob P. Solomon
1816, Daniel L. M. Peixotto	1867, Jacq <sup>s</sup> A. Bernheimer
1827, Jonathan Nathan	1867, Isaac S. Isaacs
1835, Alexander Palache	1868, Isaac Adler
1841, Israel Moses	1868, Max Moses
1856, Francis Hendricks	1870, Felix Adler
1858, Harmon Hendricks	1870, Samuel Kalish
1861, Gratz Nathan	1870, Kaufman Simon

By Act of Legislature, Novbr. 26th, 1784, among 33 additional names as Trustees of Columbia College was Rev. Gershom Seixas; and by act of April 13, 1787, when the original charter was revived with amendments, Mr. Seixas' name is again mentioned as one of the Trustees. Mr. Seixas resigned in 1815, and died in 1816.

[B. I, No. 74]

From "The Charter and By-Laws with a History of the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York; instituted April 5, 1768; incorporated March 13th, 1770; reincorporated April 13, 1784." Items taken from pp. 21, 68-83. [See *Publications*, No. 2, p. 83; No. 11, p. 155.]

[B. V, pp. 224-25]

From "The Colonial Records of the New York Chamber of Commerce, 1768-1784, with historical and biographical sketches," by John Austin Stevens, Jr. Copyrighted. New York, 1867. Items taken from pp. 8, 25, 28, 38, 43, 47, 50, 66, 69, 73-78, 87, 89, 118-120, 122, 145, 146, 165, 166, 303; 2nd Part, p. 163; 1st Part, pp. 220, 327, 328 note 57, 329, 335, 340 note 121, 354, 375, 395.

[B. V, pp. 225-46]

Memorandum of names of persons that appear to be Jews or of Jewish descent occurring in the "Journal of the Provincial

Congress" 1775, 1776-1777, although not positively ascertained to be so.

Moses, Captn. Isaac, of Company of Rangers raised in the County of Charlotte; his payroll disputed; (Meeting March 3<sup>d</sup>, 1777, Page 822).

Phillips, Major Moses, named in "a list of field officers for the county of Ulster"; "Commission dated 25<sup>th</sup> October, 1775"; Page 135.

Valentine, Isaac, and his son Isaac, of West Chester County examined Jan<sup>ry</sup> 30<sup>th</sup>, 1776; Page 274.

[B. I, No. 28]

Journal of Provincial Congress, Minutes, June 10th, 1775. Page 38, Col 2d.

Resolution to send to the New York delegates at the Continental Congress a letter calling attention to suspicions that a Captain Coffin is shipping provisions for the army and navy at Boston, and that his departure is delayed until instructions are received from the General Congress.

. . . . it has been intimated to us that Messrs. Lopez and Rome, to whom great part of the cargo is consigned, are commissioned to supply those articles to the army and navy, which is done, as is alleged, by suffering vessels which contain provisions to lie in the harbor unladen, until seized by a ship of war, according to agreement for that purpose.

Minutes, June 20th, 1775, (Page 48, 2nd Column), recite receipt of letter from John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress, dated June 15th, thanking the members for their vigilance, and recommending

. . . . that the vessel be unloaded and the cargo safely stored, until all just suspicions concerning the destination of it shall be removed.

Minutes, August 3d, 1775 (Page 99):

Ordered . . . . immediately to summon the committee in order to take into considerations the papers relating to George Coffin's

vessel and cargo now delivered to him, in order to make report thereon to this Congress. . . .

[B. I, No. 21]

Same Minutes, p. 69 :

Recommendation of Provincial Congress to observe day of fasting and prayer appointed by Continental Congress, passed July 1775.

[B. I, No. 24]

Exemption of Hart Jacobs from the performance of military duty on Friday nights, part of the Jewish Sabbath. 1776. From the "Journals of the Provincial Congress, Provincial Convention, Committee of Safety and Council of Safety of the State of New York, 1775-1776-1777. Vol. 1, Albany. Printed by Thurlow Weed, Printer to the State, 1842."

Among the proceedings headed "Die Lunae, 10. Ho. A. M., Jany. 22nd, 1776 ":

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present. Pierre Van Cortlandt, Esqr. Chairman.

Col. McDougall, Col. Brasher, Mr. Tredwell, Mr. Brewster Mr. Clark, Mr. Scott, Mr. Sands a very little time.

(After the notice of other matters the following appears, pages 260 & 261) :

Hart Jacobs, a Jew, attending at the door, requests an exemption from doing military duty on the city watch on Friday nights, which is part of his Sabbath. thereupon a certificate was given him in the words following, to wit: Hart Jacobs of the Jewish Religion having signified to this Committee, that it is inconsistent with his religious profession to perform military duty on Friday nights, being part of the Jewish Sabbath; it is Ordered, that he be exempted from military duty on that night of the week, to be subject nevertheless to the performance of his full tour of duty on other nights.

[See *Publications*, No. 10, p. 163.]

[B. I, No. 20]

From Minutes of New York Provincial Congress, July 30th, 1776, page 549, 2nd column.

Doctor Joseph Gerreau, a Frenchman, with Hyam Solomon, the distiller, as his interpreter applied to the convention for encouragement for making Salt or imparting the knowledge of that art, which the said Joseph Gerreau professes to understand. Ordered that Mr. Duer, Mr. Harper and Mr. Morris be a committee to treat with Monsr. Gerreau concerning the process of manufacturing salt in a cheap and expeditious manner, . . . [and] to give him any sum, not exceeding two hundred Pounds for communicating the same; . . .

[B. I, No. 22]

The same minutes, pages 549, 550, recite that the sloop *Nonsuch* and her cargo, belonging to Isacher Poluck, had been taken by the enemy, and afterwards retaken, and

is in a perishing condition . . . on the South side of Nassau Island. . . .

Resolved unanimously, That Colo. Henry Remson and Mr. Robert Ray, or either of them . . . are empowered by this Convention to treat with Mr. Isacher Poluck upon the sale of the Sloop *Nonsuch* and her Cargo, . . . and to take from said Isacher Poluck good and sufficient security to the President of this Convention for the payment of such moneys as may be decreed for the salvage . . . to the captors and for the fees for libelling and adjudication thereof &c.

[B. I, No. 23]

Extract from letter from New York Convention to the Continental Congress, suggesting that some measure be adopted to eliminate the prayer for the Royal Family in all American Congregations. Page 521, Col. 1, July 11th, 1776.

[Note by J. J. L.]: Up to this period the formula in the Synagogue in New York in the prayer referring to the Royal family & Governor was in Spanish as follows:

A Sua Real Magestade nosso Senhor Rey Georgue o Terceyro & a S<sup>a</sup>. nossa Reyna Charlotta, a Sua Real Altera a Prinsesa

Douger de Veles & toda a Real familia, a Sua Excellensia o Honrado Senhor Governador y todos os Senhores de Seo Consello o Magistrado desta Cidade de New York e todos os Seos Devedares.

(Copied from the old green covered book—J. J. L.)

[B. I, Nos. 26 & 27]

Same Minutes, March 20, 1777, page 844, Column 1. Proceedings of Convention in the formation of the Constitution relative to religious toleration.

[B. I, No. 25]

1781, Febry. 20. Certificate of allegiance of Joshua Isaacs, copied with permission of Gustavus Isaacs, grandson of said Joshua Isaacs, from a printed form in his possession.

Lancaster County, I do hereby certify, that Joshua Isaacs, late an Inhabitant of the Island of Granada hath voluntarily taken and subscribed the oath of Allegiance and Fidelity, as directed by an Act of General Assembly, passed the thirteenth day of June 1777, and a further Supplement to the same passed the fifth day of December 1778. Witness my hand and seal this twentieth day of February Anno Domini 1781. Paul Tantzunger.

The impression of the family is that Mr. Joshua Isaacs had been in this country anterior to 1781.

[B. V, pp. 286-87]

From "Gaines Universal Register, or Columbian Kalendar for the year 1786 and the 11th of American Independence after the 4th of July. New York. Printed by Hugh Gaine, Bookseller and Stationer at the Bible in Hanover Street." (Property of Mr. Joshua Phillips.) No. 1, p. 17, No. 2, p. 18, No. 3, p. 33, No. 4, p. 35, No. 5, pp. 37, 50, 52, 53, 55, 58, 60, 62, 63, 74, 77, 96, 105, 114, 118, 128, 139, 141, 143, 150, 151, 153.

[B. V, pp. 328-36]

From "Appendix to Proceedings of the Tammany Society or Columbian Order on Laying the Cornerstone of their new Hall in 14th Street, New York." July 4, 1867.

Among<sup>1</sup> the members of the Society who have held the offices of Sachem & Grand Sachem prior to 1864 appear the following names:

Naphtaly Judah	Sachem
Mordecai M. Noah	Grand Sachem
Eml. B. Hart	Sachem
Albert Cardozo	Sachem

[B. V, p. 220]

From "An Account of the N. Y. Hospital, 1811." Among the original subscribers were Naphtaly Judah and Moses Myers.

[B. V, p. 219.]

#### POCKET ALMANACS, 1811.

From Mings United States Register and New York Pocket Almanac for the Year 1811 by Abm. Shoemaker.

Among Surgeon Mates U. S. Navy:	Manuel Phillips
	The same in Longworths Almanacs of 1816
Among the Branch pilots:	Israel Navaro
	David Mitchel

In the List of Military Officers City & County of New York  
Artillery:

Brigade Quarter Master	Bernard Hart
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#### Second Regiment Artillery:

Quarter Master	Bernard Hart
Pay Master	Aaron Levy

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<sup>1</sup> P. 141.



**First Brigade Infantry:**

**3<sup>d</sup> Regiment:**

**Mordecai Myers**

**Captain**

[Masonic] Grand Lodge State of New York  
Grand Pursuivant

**Joseph Jacobs**

[B. I, No. 42]

During the war with Great Britain

1. Joseph Emanuel or Emanuel Joseph,

2. Jacob Abrahams,

3. John Solomons were ordered 40 miles beyond tide water. They had been reported as British subjects. The former (1). left immediately for Europe. The two others had to give satisfaction to the government the nature of which I did not learn. Mr. Joseph Benjamin who related the above to me was the nephew of Mr. Emanuel Joseph. Mr. Benjamin was born in London, Novbr. 4<sup>th</sup>, 1796. His 1st wife, Leah, daughter of Rabbi Leizer Abraham. 2<sup>nd</sup> wife, 1837, was daughter of Morris Jacobs. It is supposed, said Mr. Benjamin, they were reported to the government as dangerous citizens by Mr. H. M. Salomon of New York.<sup>1</sup>

[B. V, pp. 314-15]

From a printed scrap from a newspaper which Mr. Jacob Abrahams permitted me to copy.

In Common Council July 6, 1812.

A Communication was received from the Police Office naming amongst other gentlemen who "essentially contributed to the

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<sup>1</sup>[The following is written on a slip of paper pasted in the book:]

From the sons of the late Mr. Jacob Abrahams I learned that Messrs. Naphtali Phillips, Soln. Seixas and Benjn. S. Judah with Mr. H. M. Salomon were those who informed against Messrs. Joseph, Abrahams and Solomons. Mr. Joseph left immediately for England. Mr. Eldad Holmes, a wholesale grocer in Newslip, (now James' Slip) Alderman & Commissioner arranged the matter for the two others, and they were permitted to remain in New York.

restoration of good order and tranquility at the riot in James Street," Mr. Jacob Abrahams and the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved—That the thanks of the Common Council be presented to the persons named in the said communication for their exertions for the preservation of the peace of the city, and that the said Communication and thanks of this Board be published in the public papers.

JACOB MORTON C. C. C.

[B. I, No. 83]

Copy of a letter of the late Mr. Mordecai Myers found among the papers of the late Mr. Naphtali Phillips.

CANTONMENT WILLIAMSWELL, March 31st, 1813.

Dear Naph.

I find I am Indebted to your politeness for the naconal advocate it being marked *Kasher* \* Induces me to Believe you are one of the Proprioters. If so please continue to Send it to me. I like the caption and am pleased with the Mater it contains, the time has arrived when the nation requirs all its advocats. Sum must spill there blud and others there *ink*. I expect to be amongst the former and I hop you are amongst the latter a republican paper is to us a grate Treate at the end of each quarter please to prest the Bill to Aron Judah and he will pay and charge it to my acct. I have wrieten you a long letter from Buffalo in February and presum you never rec<sup>d</sup> or I shuld have rec<sup>d</sup> an answer eare this. I shuld feel a grate plausure to here from you with a full acct. of all occurences Since I left the city Many changes must have taken place. Manny of your Mercantil men must have made fortunes and sum must have lost considerable by the change of times. It is a fine thing to abandon the persute of welth, I never ware hapy in Persute of Riches and now that I have abandoned it I am much more contented. My Situation is not unpleasant for when with the reg<sup>t</sup> I am considered in a favorable light by my superior officers and Treated with respect by my Equals and Inferiors. I have a Compy that both respect & fear me. I keep but little Comp<sup>r</sup>, give my whole attention to Duty. My Dutys are hard and Trying to the Constitution but I continue in good helth as yeate having never been on the sick report but one day Since entering the Service.

I Abserve by the news papers that most of our Southeren ports are blockaded, that I expected it is done with a view to call the

attention of Government to defensive operations In sted of Affensive ones. But I hop we we are competent to both. If we receive the nesesarry reinforcements and a good Genl we ken conquire the uper Province & be at Montreal by Octobr and then proced to the Seage of quebeck at our Lashure. I have been for two week and am yeate in command of the Cantonment, the most our trups being at Buffalo and Black Rock; a grate man once sayed he would rether be the first in a small viledge then second in rome. it is Indead plect to be Premier—in any thing, the responsibility is however grate. I have the sick, the Invalids and convalasents of three regts to Superintend besides there protection and the genl Police of the whole, ordering of Courts Martail aproving of Sentances &c one third of my comp<sup>y</sup> are continually on duty. I have anough to do but am content. My best respects to Mrs P and all the children, remember me to all friends,

Yours Truley,

M. MYERS

A correct copy of the original in possession of Mr. Isaac Phillips. J. J. Lyons.

[B. IV, pp. 213-15]

POCKET ALMANACK, 1816.

From Longworths Pocket Almanack, New York, 1816.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Page 58, Among the officers of the<br>Grand Lodge [F. & A. M.]<br>of the State of New York | } Brother Joseph Jacobs<br>Grand Pursuivant.   |
| Page 73, Among Religious & Char-<br>itable Societies                                       | } Polonies Charity School<br>An Establishment of the<br>Hebrew Society, Simeon<br>Levy, Teacher. |
| Page 75, Among Churches in New<br>York   | } Hebrew Synagogue Beaver<br>Street, Rev. G. Seixas.   |
| Page 77, Among Officers in the City<br>of New York   | } Abm. Hart, Assistant State<br>Sealer.  |
| Page 77, Among Auctioneers in<br>New York  | } Benjamin Seixas.<br>Ephraim Hart.  |

Page 161, Among Captains of 115<sup>th</sup>  
 Regiment, 10<sup>th</sup> Brigade,  
 N. Y. State Infantry, City  
 & County of New York } Haym M. Salomon.

Page 162, Among Lieutenants of  
 106<sup>th</sup> Regiment, a b o v e } Eleazer Phillips.  
 Brigade }

[B. I, No. 43]

### POCKET ALMANACK, 1818.

From Longworths Pocket Almanack, 1818, New York.

Page 26, Among Constables      Jacob Hays.

Page 27, Auctioneers' Correct Statement of the amount of duties  
 paid to the United States on Sales at auction in the city  
 (New York) during the year 1816.

Mordecai Myers	\$467.26.
Benjamin Seixas	2120.71.
Simon Nathan	782.76.

Page 33, Among the Directors of the Phenix Bank, Capital  
 \$700,000, charter dated 15<sup>th</sup> June, 1812, is the name of  
 Moses Judah.

Page 49, Among Religious & Charitable Societies—Polonies'  
 Charity School—Teacher.

Page 57, The general Grand Encampment of the United States  
 of America, Columbian Council of R. M. M. Among  
 the officers, Sir Levy Nathans Ill. S. G. R. M.

Page 60, Among Churches in N. Y.  
 Hebrews' Synagogue Beaver St. Rev —

Page 64, Roster of the First Brigade of N. Y. S. Artillery,  
 Ninth Regiment, Aaron Levy Lieut. Col.

Page 69, Third Brigade, N. Y. State Infantry, 51st Regiment,  
 Jacob Delamotta, Surgeon.

[B. I, No. 44]

Elm St. Shool consecrated, Friday 29 June 1827. Printing  
 office of S. H. Jackson, Printer, 495 Grand St. 1827. At the

consecration of Elm St. Shool, 1827, an Hebrew Ode Acrostic on *B'nai Jeshurun* \* by I. B. Kursheedt; Service collected & arranged by I. B. Kursheedt & J. I. Hart, Esqr.; Music selected & conducted by M. S. Pike; Discourse, I believe, by Henry Hendricks.

[The paragraph above is written in pencil on the front cover of Book IV.]

November 1835. Printed circular of B. L. Timm advertising Kosher sausages and meats, &c., annexing the following testimonial:

The Bearer, Mr. Bernhardt L. Timm, from Hamburg (Germany) being about to commence the business of Sausage making we take the opportunity to certify, at his request, that from personal acquaintance, as well as from trustworthy certificates and the letters of introduction he has produced, we believe that he will conscientiously maintain the prescriptions of our Religion in regard to the *Kasherith* \* of the articles prepared by him, and we therefore recommend him to the goodwill and patronage of all Israelites.

S. SAMELSON *Hazan* \* of the Congregation *Anshe Hased* \*  
L. JOACHIMSEN.

From the certificates in possession of the above named Mr. Timm granted by the Rabbi and Shochetim of Altona as well as the knowledge of the subscriber to the above, I cordially recommend him to the patronage of our several Congregations.

I. B. KURSHEEDT.

NEW YORK, August 7<sup>th</sup>, 1836.

[B. IV, pp. 267-68]

“The Mitzvah.”

“Masters B. F. Salomon & S. Solomons, Editors and proprietors (Number 1) New York November 29, 1843 (Price 3 Cents”).

The heading of a small newspaper, of which Mr. Moses Solomons has 3 numbers in his possession, I do not think it was

continued beyond the 3<sup>d</sup> week, December 13<sup>th</sup>. The proprietorship seems to have changed already with the second number to "G. S. S. and Company." The Mitzvah, although bearing a Hebrew name was not of a religious character, the subjects discussed in the three numbers being all of a secular nature. Small sheet (soon discontinued).

[B. IV, p. 269]

"Independent."

Volume 1. New York, Wednesday, December 6, 1843, Number 1, by Sam'l Salomon & Co.

Single Copies 2 cts. Offices, No 12 Evening Post Building, 27 Pine & 97 Mercer Street.

No. 1 H. Pillet & S. Salomon Editors.

Nos. 2, 3, 4 Masters M. Noah & S. Salomon, Editors.

The heading of another small sheet, also of a secular nature. 4 numbers issued; small sheet, soon discontinued.

[B. IV, p. 269]

From a printed pamphlet published in 1846, entitled "The Wealth & Biography of the Wealthy Citizens of the City of New York," copyrighted by Moses Y. Beach (in possession of Mr. Moses Gomez). Among the names mentioned are Emanuel Michael, A. L. Gomez, David Hart, five families of Hendricks, Amelia, Rebecca & Bell Judah & Captain U. P. Levy.

[B. V, pp. 260-63]

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN DANIEL WEBSTER & M. M. NOAH.

From "Private Correspondence of Daniel Webster," Edited by Fletcher Webster, in two volumes. Boston, Little Brown & Company, 1857. Second Volume, pp. 346, 347. Mr. M. M. Noah to Mr. Webster. New York, October 31, 1849. Mr. Webster to Mr. Noah, Boston, November 9th, 1849.

[See Max J. Kohler, *Publications*, No. 11, p. 186.]

[B. I. No. 8]

MONTICELLO PROPERTY OF CAPT. U. P. LEVY.

Extracts from an article in *Harpers Monthly Magazine*, No. XXXVIII, July 1853, Vol. VII, entitled "Monticello" by Benson J. Lossing.

Monticello<sup>1</sup> is now owned by Commodore U. P. Levy of the United States Navy, who is also the proprietor of Monroe's estate. His winter residence is in the City of New York. Fortunately for me he arrived at Monticello on the day of my visit and I had the pleasure of viewing the house and grounds while partaking of his hospitality.

After describing a model in plaster of a *Capital* composed by Mr. Jefferson for a new order of architecture purely American, Mr. Benson [*sic*] continues.

Near the capital upon a pedestal stood a bust of Jefferson in plaster, made in the same mold in which was cast the fine life size, bronze statue of the patriot, which now stands in front of the executive mansion at Washington. That statue is from the *atelier* of the celebrated David of Paris. It was made for Captain Levy, at a heavy cost and presented by him to the United States about twenty years ago. It was modelled chiefly from an excellent portrait of Jefferson by Sully, in the possession of La Fayette and passed the ordeal of that venerated patriot's criticism. When completed he pronounced it a most faithful counterfeit of the man. Upon the scroll, held in the hand of the patriot the whole of the Declaration of Independence is engraved.

Near the bust of Jefferson stood a beautiful model of the "Vandalia", the first ship in our Navy in which flogging was abolished while she was under the command of Captain Levy. Upon the wall, close by, is a fine portrait of Madame Noel (an aunt of Captain Levy, and also of the late Major Noah the veteran New York editor) wife of M. Noel, a member of the national assembly of France, who was guillotined during the Reign of Terror. She was afterward a tutor of the Princess Charlotte of England, in a peculiar style of flower painting. The portrait was painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds.

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<sup>1</sup> Page 149.

The<sup>1</sup> Estates of Mr. Jefferson were sold after his death to liquidate his debts and after twice changing owners, the present domain of Monticello, including a little more than 200 acres, passed into the possession of Captain Levy.

[B. I, No. 13]

Interesting detailed account from the *New York Herald*, March 26, 1862, of the funeral of Commodore Uriah P. Levy, U. S. N.

[B. I, No. 71]

Summary of a biographical sketch of David Salomon, newly elected President of the German American Bank, in *The Jewish Messenger*, New York, December 4, 1874.

David Salomon was born in New York City about sixty years ago. In early life he went to Mobile, Alabama, and engaged in mercantile pursuits, and soon became a partner in one of the leading firms in that city. For many years connected with the banking and insurance interests of Mobile, he was elected President of one of the banks, retaining that position until he removed from Mobile. In 1856 he moved to Philadelphia, and established a house doing a large cotton and banking business. It was during his residence here that he interested himself in railroad matters, and he soon became so popular that he was elected Director in several companies, including the Pennsylvania Central.

The war having destroyed the cotton trade, his firm was discontinued, and since 1862 he has not been engaged in mercantile life. In 1864, he removed to New York, married a daughter of the late Uriah Hendricks, and since that year has been identified with New York interests. His old love for insurance is evidenced by his active connection with the Imperial Insurance Company of London, and he may be styled the American manager of this Company. He is a prominent director of the Guaranty and Indemnity Company, and is financial agent of the Pennsylvania Central Railroad.

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<sup>1</sup> Page 153.



For several years he was Vice-President of the German-American Bank, and when Emil Sauer resigned the Presidency a year ago, Mr. Salomon became President *pro tem.*, and was subsequently unanimously elected President. He is also a Director in the Mt. Sinai Hospital.

[B. I, No. 57]

ITEMS RELATING TO THE NEWPORT SYNAGOGUE.

Copy of Deed conveying the land of the Synagogue in Newport, R. I., 1759. [Land granted by Ebenezer Allen to Jacob Rodrigues Rivera, Moses Levy and Isaac Hart.]

CITY CLERKS OFFICE

NEWPORT, October 7, A. D. 1872.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the deed as recorded in Book No. 15, page 376. Land Evidence Newport. Witness my hand and the Seal of said City the day and year aforewritten.

(Seal of City)

BENJAMIN MARSH 2<sup>nd</sup>

City Clerk.

[B. III, pp. 32-37]

Doctor King told me Peter Harrison was the Architect of the Synagogue. He was also the architect of the Redwood Library building. The Library building was erected in 1748. The Synagogue in 1762-3.

[B. III, p. 38]

Dimensions of interior of Synagogue.

Length inside the building from wall to wall, East to West, 42 Steps.

Width from wall to wall North to South 34 Steps.

[B. III, p. 38]

Windows.

North Side, 4 windows, same in gallery;

South side, 4 " " " "

East Side, 2 " " above no gallery on the east side;

West side, 2 " and the door. In the gallery 3 windows.

[B. III, p. 38]

Columns.

The gallery and ceiling are supported on the North and South Sides by 5 columns.

On the west side behind the Tebah by 2 columns.

[B. III, p. 39]

The Seat for Parnassim, "Banca."

On the North side against the wall is a small enclosure with a bench on a raised platform for the elders of the Synagogue.

[B. III, p. 39]

The Hechal.

The Hechal has a rail in front on which there are 4 brass Candlesticks. The two tablets with the ten Commandments upon the Hechal are surmounted with three crowns.<sup>1</sup>

I wonder, the prejudice against royalty, which once called forth a reflection upon Trinity Church for having a Crown on its steeple, did not cause their removal.<sup>2</sup> The *Hechal*,\* the same as the building inside, together with the Tebah and the seat of the Parnassim are all painted white.

[B. III, p. 39]

"The perpetual Lamp."

The perpetual lamp is suspended from the ceiling in front of the Hechal and has the following inscription:

"Given by Samuel Judah of New York, Anno Mundi 5525"  
[1765].

[B. III, p. 40]

The Chandeliers.

There are 5 chandeliers of brass, suspended from the ceiling, viz.

1. One, large, in centre, between the Hechal and the Tebah for 12 Candles, no inscription.
2. One, medium size, North Side of the Tebah, for 8 Candles, with the following inscription:

The gift of Aaron Lopez  
Anno Mundi 5530 [1770].

3. One, same size as the last described, South side of the Tebah, for 8 candles, with the following inscription:

The gift of Naphtaly Hart Myers  
Anno Mundi 5520 [1760].

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<sup>1</sup> Crown of priesthood, crown of royalty, and crown of the Law.

<sup>2</sup> See George C. Mason, "Reunion of the Sons & Daughters of Newport," p. 99 Note.

4. Two, smaller size, nearer the Hechal, for six candles each, both having the same inscription:

The gift of Abraham of Jacob Rod. Rivera. Anno  
Mundi 5525 [1765].

[B. III, p. 40]

#### The Candlesticks.

Six Candlesticks of brass, (2 on the railing around the Tebah and 4 on that in front of the Hechal), each with this inscription: *The gift of the bachelor Enoch, son of Joseph to the Synagogue of the Holy Congregation Jeshuat Israel in Newport Rhode Island in the year 5526 \* [1766].*

#### Gas.

Gaspipes have been introduced in the building. The outlets are perceptible on the walls but as yet there are no fixtures (Aug<sup>t</sup> 1872).

[B. III, p. 41]

#### Charity-boxes.

On each of the two columns on the west side there is affixed a semicircular mahogany box with the inscription "Charity box".

[B. III, p. 41]

From "Newport and how to see it", 1872, Newport, R. I. Davis & Pitman (a guide book).

The<sup>1</sup> Jewish Synagogue on Touro Street is the oldest structure of the kind in the United States and is not now used, though kept in perfect order by aid of a large fund bequeathed by Abraham Touro. It was built in 1762 and was for a long time the only place in New England, where the Hebrew Service was held.

[B. III, p. 44]

Correspondence between the Congregations *Jeshuat Israel* \* of Newport, Rhode Island and *Shearith Israel* \* of the City of New York. [Letters already copied: cf. pp. 177-184, 217-220.]

[B. II, pp. 67-86]

[The following items are summaries of notes by Rev. J. J. Lyons, the material having been published independently heretofore.]

Newport, R. I. K. K. Jeshuat Israel—Portuguese Minhag. 1658—First settlement of Jews. "Their temporary place of worship was located 'on the points' where services were conducted by Mr. Isaaks and Mr. Polack. 5524-1763, the synagogue was consecrated on the first day of Hanuka." 1677—Purchase of Burial Ground.

[B. V, p. 288]

[Blessings on the eve of Kippur in the Synagogue in Newport, transcribed by Rev. J. J. Lyons from an old copy book containing other directions. No date, but referring to circumstances connected with the building of the synagogue in 1762. In Hebrew and Portuguese, with translations of the latter. Only the English, with the names of those receiving the blessing, is here given:]

Aaron Lopez,<sup>1</sup> "for having laid the 1<sup>st</sup> cornerstone of this holy building."

Jacob Rodrigues Rivera,<sup>2</sup> "for having laid the 2<sup>nd</sup> cornerstone of this holy building."

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<sup>1</sup> [Aaron Lopez was one of the most prominent Jewish merchants in New England in colonial days. Numerous references to him may be found in the various volumes of the *Publications*, and Volumes 9 and 10 (7th Series) of the Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society entitled, "The Commerce of Rhode Island" are largely composed of his correspondence. He was one of the leading merchants of his day. See also Leon Huhner, "A Merchant Prince of Colonial New England," in *Jewish Comment*, May and June, 1905; Albert M. Friedenberg, *Publications*, No. 23, pp. 183-184, and No. 25, p. 113, and Index volume of the *Publications*.]

<sup>2</sup> [Jacob Rodrigues Rivera was another of the Jewish merchants of Newport who helped to give her her commercial importance in the eighteenth century. He, too, is frequently mentioned in the various volumes of the *Publications*, and in the volumes of the Massachusetts Historical Society cited above.]

Naphtali bar Moshe, "for having laid the 3<sup>d</sup> cornerstone of this holy building."

Isaac bar Eliezer,<sup>1</sup> "for having laid the 4<sup>th</sup> cornerstone of this holy building."

Isaac bar Moshe, "for having laid the 5<sup>th</sup> cornerstone of this holy building."

Naphtali bar Isaac, "for having laid the 6<sup>th</sup> cornerstone of this holy building."

Hanoch bar Joseph, "for having presented some ornaments for this holy building."

Abraham de Jacob Rodriguez Rivera (a lad under thirteen years of age), "for having presented 2 chandeliers for this holy building."

Shemoel bar Moshe, "for having presented some ornaments for this holy building."

Shemoel bar Baruch, "for having presented a perpetual lamp for this holy building."

Eber bar Shelomo, "for having presented a 'Book of the Law' sacred for this building."

The Gentlemen of the Mamad of the Talmud Torah, "for having presented a 'Book of the Law' sacred for this building."

Daniel Gomez, "for having always interested himself for the advantage of the Congregation."

"For the members of Cong<sup>a</sup> Shearith Israel in New York."

"For the members of Cong<sup>a</sup> Shangar Hashamayim in Jamaica."

"Trustees of Cong<sup>a</sup> in London for having made a present to this Cong."

"For the members of the Cong<sup>a</sup> Mikvey Israel in Curaçao."

"For the members of Cong<sup>a</sup> Nevay Shalem in Paramaribo, Surinam."

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<sup>1</sup> [Probably Isaac Elizer, a well-known Jew of Newport, who was the subject of the controversy as to whether Jews could be naturalized in Rhode Island. See as to him, Index Volume of *Publications*.]

"For all our brethren held by the Inquisition and who are captives."

"For all our brethren who are at sea or on journeys."

"For all our sick brethren."

[B. II, pp. 92-100]

REVD: RABBI HAIJM ISAAC KARIGAL.<sup>1</sup>

I have in my possession a printed copy of a Sermon of Rabbi Karigal. . . . [See George A. Kohut, *Publications*, No. 3, pp. 122-123.] The sermon . . . covering 19 pages, is exclusively of a religious nature. It does not allude to any history of either the city or congregation, except when addressing the "Parnas" in a note foot of page 5, the following is added: "The official title of the ruler or head of the Synagogue, Mr. Aaron Lopez."

I have in my possession a likeness of Rabbi Karigal painted on ivory, which was presented to me in 1840 by Mrs. Rebecca Hendricks, relict of the late Uriah Hendricks, and daughter of the late Aaron Lopez of Newport, R. I., of which the following is a copy.

[B. II, pp. 63-64]

Portrait of Rabbi Hayim Isaac Karigal, probably by Smybert, according to N. H. Gould.

[B. II, p. 64]

Sermon entitled "The Salvation of Israel" by Rabbi Karigal, delivered at Newport, May 28, 1773.

[B. V, pp. 115-16]

Portrait of Haham Karigal pasted in the Book. [See *Publications*, No. 10, p. 32.]

[B. V, p. 117]

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<sup>1</sup> [As to Rabbi Karigal, see also p. 215.]

Dr. The Holy Sedaka of Jeshuat Israel in Newport, Rhode Island with Moses Seixas, Cr. [Already copied: cf. MS. No. 185, p. 185.]

[B. II, pp. 102-15]

From "History of Rhode Island and Newport in the Past," by Rev. Edward Peterson, New York, 1853.

[Not copied except for the following item:]

After <sup>1</sup> the long interval of sixty years, in which the Synagogue had been closed, in the year 1850, it was thrown open again, and services were performed on Saturday (the Jewish Sabbath) by an eminent Rabbi from New York.<sup>2</sup> It was an important era and calculated to revive in the mind the great and important events, which had taken place in the history of this distinguished people.

[B. II, pp. 43-44]

Exterior View of the Synagogue in Touro Street, Newport, Rhode Island.

[B. III, p. 29]

Interior Views of the Synagogue in Newport, Rhode Island :

- a) Showing Hechal with reader's desk and portion of gallery.
- b) View of ark taken from gallery.
- c) View of upper portion of ark.
- d) View of galleries showing columns and portion of ark.

[B. III, pp. 30-31]

View of the Synagogue in Newport. K. K. Jeshuat Israel in Touro Street. Consecrated 1st day *Hanukah* \* 5524 = 1763.

Over the gate in front of the Synagogue is inscribed: "Erected 5603 [1843] from a bequest made by Abraham Touro, Esq."

[B. II, p. 66]

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<sup>1</sup> Page 182.

<sup>2</sup> This was only in the summer of 1850. Rev. M. J. Raphall preached on several Sabbaths, and the service was conducted by Rev. Ellis Lyons. (J. J. L.)



POEM, "IN THE JEWISH SYNAGOGUE IN NEWPORT",

BY EMMA LAZARUS, JULY 1867.

Here, where the noises of the busy town,  
The ocean's plunge and roar can enter not,  
We stand and gaze around with tearful awe,  
And muse upon the consecrated spot.

No signs of life are here: the very prayers  
Inscribed around are in a language dead;  
The light of the "perpetual lamp" is spent  
That an undying radiance was to shed.

What prayers were in this temple offered up,  
Wrung from sad hearts, that knew no joy on earth,  
By these lone exiles of a thousand years,  
From the fair sunrise land that gave them birth!

Now as we gaze, in this new world of light  
Upon this relic of the days of old,  
The present vanishes, and tropic bloom  
And eastern towns and temples we behold.

Again we see the patriarch with his flocks,  
The purple seas, the hot blue sky o'erhead,  
The slaves of Egypt,—omens, mysteries,—  
Dark fleeing hosts by flaming angels led.

A wondrous light upon a sky-kissed mount,  
A man who reads the great God's<sup>1</sup> written law,  
'Midst blinding glory and effulgence rare  
Unto a people prone with reverent awe.

The pride of luxury's barbaric pomp,  
In the rich court of royal Solomon—  
Alas! we wake: one scene alone remains,—  
The exiles by the streams of Babylon.

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<sup>1</sup>"The great God's" substituted for the ineffable name found in the original.

Our softened voices send us back again  
But mournful echoes through the empty hall;  
Our footsteps have a strange unnatural sound,  
And with unwonted gentleness they fall.

The weary ones, the sad, the suffering,  
All found their comfort in the holy place,  
And children's gladness and men's gratitude  
Took voice and mingled in the chant of praise.

The funeral and the marriage, now, alas!  
We know not which is sadder to recall;  
For youth and happiness have followed age,  
And green grass lieth gently over all.

Nathless the sacred shrine is holy yet,  
With its lone floors where reverent feet once trod.  
Take off your shoes, as by the burning bush,  
Before the mystery of death and God.

[B. II, pp. 137-39]

#### ITEMS RELATING TO THE NEWPORT CEMETERY.

Copy of Grant of Land from Dickins to Campanal & Pacheckoe for a Burial Place, 1678.

[See facsimile at p. 175.]

[B. III, pp. 3-6]

From tradition among the old people it was known that Nathaniel Kay had a negro servant buried in his land adjoining the Jewish cemetery. When the wall and enclosure were erected in the year 1842, in digging the ground around the cemetery to place the requisite foundation stones, the remains of this negro servant were found beyond the line of the Cemetery. This information Mr. N. H. Gould communicated.

[B. III, pp. 6-7]

Henry Schroeder is the name of the owner of the mansion in Bellevue Avenue near the Jews' Cemetery, spoken of by Peterson in his history, who in conversation with a friend of Mr. Judah Touro, suggested "that it would be a commendable act on the part of Mr. Touro, were he to enclose the burial ground with a noble wall of granite, as the then present brick wall was in a decayed state." [See Peterson, "History of Rhode Island," New York, 1853, p. 179.]

[B. III, p. 7]

Thomas Hornesby (who was lame) when a boy was told there was a small building, an offset of a hemproom of a ropewalk adjoining the burying-ground on the Western Side. A Mr. Cohen went in there at funerals to read prayers. Some of the old people remember this circumstance at the funeral of a child of Mr. Myer Pollock. Mr. N. H. Gould and Mr. Samuel Engs remember hearing of this. [Probably the old *Matar* \* House.]

[B. III, pp. 7-8]

From "The Graves of Newport", published in *Harper's Monthly Magazine* of August, 1869, No. 231, (by Henry Tuckerman of Boston).

[B. II, pp. 54-62]

From a guide book: "Newport and how to see it, with list of Summer Residents, Tidetable, &c., 1872. Newport, R. I. Davis & Pittmann."

At <sup>1</sup> the junction with Kay Street is the Jewish Cemetery with its massive gateway and fence, also erected by Mr. Touro at a heavy expense. The cemetery presents more the appearance of a flower garden than a burying-ground, and is always kept in the most perfect order. No one should fail to look in upon this quiet spot where sleep the men who did so much to give the city its early renown.

[B. III, p. 28]

From "Newport Illustrated," by George C. Mason. C. E. Hammett, Jr., Publisher, Newport, R. I.

Coming <sup>2</sup> along Touro Street to the North, the massive granite gateway and fence, surrounding the Jewish Cemetery will attract attention. It was erected in 1843 by order of the late Judah Touro Esq., at an expense of about \$12000. Mr. Touro was a native of Newport and in these grounds repose the remains of his father and mother and other members of his family. The cemetery and walk in front are kept in repair by a fund provided for that purpose through the liberality of Mr. Touro.

[B. III, p. 28]

Poem, "The Jewish Cemetery at Newport," by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

[B. II, pp. 134-37]

Abstract of the inscriptions upon the tombstones and monuments in the cemetery in Newport prepared by Mr. N. H. Gould. [See Abraham P. Mendes, *The Rhode Island Histori-*

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<sup>1</sup> Page 15.

<sup>2</sup> Page 62.

*cal Magazine*, October 1885. See also MS. No. 10 in this Collection, pp. 191-210.]

[B. III, pp. 8-27]

Plot of the Jews' Cemetery, Newport, R. I. Wm. Dame, Surveyor, Sept., 1872. Scale 20 feet to an inch.

[B. III, p. 2]

Picture of Gate and Railing fronting the Hebrew Burial Ground at Newport, R. I.

[B. II, p. 54]

Picture of Interior of Burial Ground of the Hebrews in Newport, East Side View.

[B. II, p. 56]

Picture of Interior of Burial Ground of the Hebrews in Newport. West Side View. The three pictures [mentioned] above are photographs by J. A. Williams of Newport, presented to me by Messrs. D. J. & N. H. Gould. Copied for me in small by Gardner, 305 6th Ave., N. Y.

[B. II, p. 58]

The Jewish Burial Ground, Newport.

3 frontispieces a) Gate and Railing fronting the Burial Ground.

b) Interior views, East side, with rear view of tomb of Judah Touro.

c) West side with front of Judah Touro's tomb in fore-ground.

[B. III, p. 1]

## ITEMS RELATING TO MASONRY IN NEWPORT.

Memoranda furnished by Mr. N. H. Gould, found among papers of the estate of Gov<sup>r</sup>: John Wanton.

1658, On ye 5th day of ye 9<sup>th</sup> month 1658, ye 2<sup>nd</sup> Tisri A. M. 5518, we assembled at ye house of Mordecaiah Campanall and gave a degree to Abraham Moses.<sup>1</sup>

1780, In 1780 among the members of King David's Lodge are the following names:

Moses M. Hays

Moses Seixas

Soln. Aaron Myers

Isaac Isaacks (Broker, 1760)

Joseph Jacobs

Eliezer Elizer

Moses Isaacks (member, 1760; Silversmith)

Isaac Elizer

Christian Myers (doubtful)

S. Simpson

Samuel Levy (member, 1757)

Abm. Pollock, 1760

D<sup>d</sup>. Lopez, 1762

Jacob Francks (a broker in flax), 1763

Moses Lopez, 1763, 21<sup>st</sup> July

Nathaniel Phillips, member in St. Johns Lodge 1793 to 1795 (Son)

Daniel Phillips (Father) made a mason in 1747. From 1793 to 1795 in St. John's Lodge.

Isaac Elizer became reduced in circumstances and was relieved by the lodges. When he died his funeral expenses were defrayed by the fraternity & the funeral services were conducted by Moses Seixas, the Master of the Lodge.<sup>2</sup>

1790, October 19<sup>th</sup>, Union of the two lodges King David's Lodge and St. John's Lodge.

[B. III, pp. 45-46]

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<sup>1</sup> How could this be done on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of *Rosh Hashonah*,\* or was it on the night after the 2<sup>nd</sup> day, in which case it should have been dated 3<sup>d</sup> of Tisri.—[J. J. L.]

<sup>2</sup> [In connection with the above items, see Samuel Oppenheim, *Publications*, No. 19, pp. 9-18.]

## ITEMS RELATING TO THE TOURO FAMILY, NEWPORT.

REV. ISAAC TOURO, MINISTER OF THE CONGREGATION JESHUAT ISRAEL  
IN NEWPORT, R. I.

Rev<sup>d</sup> Isaac Touro was a native of Holland. He came to this country in early life (22 years old) in 1760, and first settled in New York. He thence removed to Boston where he married Miss [Reyna] Hays daughter of Mr. [Judah] Hays. He then settled in Newport and was elected Minister of the Congregation Jeshuat Israel. He had 4 children, three sons and one daughter, named Abraham, Judah, Nathan and Rebecca. Abraham, Judah & Rebecca were born in Newport, and Nathan in New York. Abraham died in Boston, aged 45 years, on the 18<sup>th</sup> of October, 1822. He was unmarried and distributed his property among his immediate relatives, making also several charitable bequests. Judah died, also unmarried, in New Orleans, on the 18<sup>th</sup> January, 1854, aged 80 years. Having, as he says in his last will and testament, "no forced heirs", the greater portion of his immense estate was distributed in bequests among the various charitable institutions in New Orleans and elsewhere without regard to religion, as he gave munificent legacies to both Jewish and Christian institutions, and made his friend, Rezin Davis Shepherd of Virginia, a Gentile, his residuary legatee. Rebecca was married to Joshua Lopez by Rev. I. B. Seixas at No. 206 Hudson St., New York, on the 18<sup>th</sup> of March, 1829. She died without issue in New York, Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>, 1833. The remains of all three were buried in the Beth Haim in Newport. The other son Nathan was born in New York. Item 81 on the list of children that were initiated into the holy covenant of Abraham by the *Mohel* \* Mr. Abm. I. Abrahams, reads: "On Monday January 8<sup>th</sup>, 1781, Nathan, son of Hazan Isaac Touro in New York." The time or place of his death, I have not been able to trace.

During the Revolutionary War Rev<sup>d</sup>. Isaac Touro removed with his family to New York where he officiated for a while in the absence of the Hazan Rev. Gershom M. Seixas who had gone to Philadelphia, alternately with Mr. J<sup>b</sup>. Cohen in the Synagogue of the Cong<sup>n</sup>: Shearith Israel.

Mr. Touro whilst Hazan in Newport was held in high regard by his Congregation as well as by his professional brethren of all denominations. It is said he taught the Hebrew Language to Rev. Dr. Ezra Stiles of Yale College. He eventually went with his family to Kingston, Jamaica, where he died and was buried. The date of the death on the list of *Hashkabet of K. K. Shearith Israel* \* is Thursday, Tebet 14<sup>th</sup>, 5544, corresponding with January 8<sup>th</sup>, 1784. He was 46 years old at the time of his demise. Mrs. Touro with her children returned to Boston where she died Septbr. 28, 1787, aged 44 years, and was buried in the Beth Haim in Newport. . . .<sup>1</sup>

[B. II, pp. 140-42]

#### ABRAHAM TOURO.

Copied from *The Atlas* Sunday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, 1849, among the "Ex[c]erpts from the Record of the olden time" taken from the *National Intelligencer*, October 22, 1822:

Died in Boston on Saturday evening last, Abraham Touro, Esq<sup>r</sup>., merchant, aged 40; a gentleman whose urbanity, hospitality and public spirit made him beloved and respected by all who knew him. His death was occasioned by an accident. While reviewing the military parade on the 3<sup>d</sup> inst., in a chaise, his horse was frightened by the fire of the artillery, and became unmanagable and Mr. T. in leaping from the chaise fractured his leg so severely that, notwithstanding the best surgical assistance, a mortification ensued, which terminated his life. Besides several gifts and remembrances to private individuals amounting, it is said, to ten thousand Dollars, he has bequeathed 50,000 Dollars to the following institutions: Massachusetts General Hospital, \$10,000; Synagogue, New York, \$10,000; Synagogue, Newport, \$15,000; Boston Female Asylum, \$5,000; Asylum for Indigent Boys, \$5,000;

<sup>1</sup> [See Max J. Kohler, *Publications*, No. 13, pp. 93-111. Also, Leon Huhner, "The Jews of Newport," New York, 1908. See also p. 252 and MS. No. 10, p. 203 *supra*.]



Humane Society, \$5,000. The remains of Mr. Touro are to be deposited in the Synagogue in Newport. Besides the \$15,000, which Mr. Touro bequeathed to the Synagogue in Newport, he made a donation of \$30,000, the interest of which was forever to be applied to keeping the Synagogue in repair, and the paving of the street in front and for some distance each side of it.

When this bequest was made, there was not a Jew in Newport, nor is there one there now. The Synagogue is kept up in the most admirable state of perfection, and the street is the only good one in Newport.

[B. II, pp. 143-44]

The Trustees of the Congregation Shearith Israel in the City of New York received the sum of \$10,000 bequeathed to them by Mr. Touro, and as a mark of their gratitude, resolved that his name be enrolled on the list of Legators for an *Hashkabah* \* on every anniversary of his death, on the first of every month, and on the eve of Kipoor, and that his name be included in the special prayer made for the benefactors of the Congregation before the conclusion service on the holy Day of Atonement. As a further evidence of their appreciation of the liberality of Mr. Touro, they caused a tablet to be erected in the Synagogue with suitable inscriptions in Hebrew and in English of which the following is a copy:

*In everlasting memory be the charity of*

*Abraham Touro*

*Who gave ten thousand dollars*

*To this holy congregation*

*He died 3 Heshvan 5583*

*"Wealth and riches are in his house*

*And his righteousness stands for ever" \**

*Erected*

*By the Trustees of this Congregation  
to the memory of*

*Abraham Touro*

*whose practical efforts to cherish  
the religion of his fathers were only  
equalled by his munificence  
which showered its blessings  
without sectional distinction.*

[B. II, pp. 144-45]

Portrait of Abraham Touro, copied from an original by Stuart, the celebrated English artist. The portrait is in possession of Mrs. Benjn. Florance (*née* Rebecca Kursheedt) of New Orleans, left with her, by her brother the late Gershom Kursheedt, one of the executors of the late Judah Touro. Photographed by Theo. Lilienthal, 131 Poydras near Camp, New Orleans, and presented to me by Mr. Edwin Kursheedt.

[B. II, p. 142]

#### JUDAH TOURO.

Extract as to Judah Touro from book entitled "Jackson and New Orleans by Alexander Walker, an authentic narrative of the memorable achievements of the American army under Andrew Jackson before New Orleans in the winter of 1814, '15."

[B. II, pp. 207-14]

Death of Judah Touro (copied from *The Occident*, Vol. XI, Adar 5614, March 1854, No. 12). Edited by Rev. I. Leeser.

[B. II, pp. 146-51]

Funeral at Newport, Rhode Island, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 1854. Extracted from *The Occident*, Vol. XII, p. 209.

[B. II, pp. 155-64]

Burning of Judah Touro's old books & correspondence, from *N. Y. Herald*, Monday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, 1855, copied from *New Orleans Courier*, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 1855.

Our attention was called yesterday evening to a fire in the yard of one of the buildings belonging to the Touro's estate on Canal Street near the corner of Bourbon, which are to be torn down to make way for several new and splendid stores. In an old brick well in the centre of the yard was a pile of burning faggots mixed with old account books in which the details of Mr. Touro's business have been recorded for the last forty or fifty years. The process of burning had already continued two days and there was still a cart load left. Amongst them was a volume of his "Correspondence with his friend Shepherd," which his friend might

desire to have preserved unless destroyed, like the rest, by his positive orders. These numerous books, extending over the transactions of so many years were suggestive of the assiduous business habits of the deceased philanthropist. It looked somewhat Vandal-like to see the flames destroying what cost to him and his clerks such immense labor. They are, however, but the scaffolding over which the fabric of his princely fortune was reared, and that fortune only a part of that with and over which the structure of an industrious and noble life was built. The books and other instruments of the fortune perish; he who accumulated it is mouldering in the tomb; the bequests and charities he bestowed will soon be lost in the common mass; but the example of his magnanimity will remain in the memory of unborn generations.

[B. II, pp. 166-67]

From the *Newport Mercury*, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 1855:

#### MONUMENT OF JUDAH TOURO.

Among the improvements and buildings of our city, of a recent date, our attention has been directed to a noble and substantial monument recently erected in the Jewish Cemetery to the memory of Judah Touro by order of the executors. It is of Quincy granite, 13½ feet from the ground to point of obelisk, at lower base 6 feet square, second base 5 feet square, cube 3 feet square, on the west side of which is the following inscription: "To the memory of Judah Touro. Born in Newport, R. I., 16<sup>th</sup> June, 1775. Died in New Orleans, La., 18th January, 1854. Interred here June 6<sup>th</sup>." On the East: "The last of his name. He inscribed it in the Book of Philanthropy to be remembered forever." North and South sides are the Hebrew inscriptions. This monument, graceful in its outline, beautiful and substantial in all its parts, is the most appropriate and fit monument for one who possessed and exemplified the most noble virtues, and reflects great credit to the heart of his friend and executor, R. D. Shepherd, Esqr., by whose order it was erected. The workmanship of the monument is of the most perfect character, the lettering deep with direct reference to durability. In the lower base there is deposited a copper box containing the weekly newspapers of this city, New York and Boston papers of the day previous, a copy of Mr. Touro's will and coin of the year. The whole work has been executed in such a way as will ensure its standing many years.

[B. II, pp. 164-65]

Portrait of Mr. Judah Touro of New Orleans.

[B. II, p. 155.]

THE LIKENESS OF JUDAH TOURO.

I bought a photograph of Judah Touro (with many other pictures of Jewish celebrities) from a Jewish vender. It has the name and address of the artist printed on the back; namely "Anderson and Blessing, 61 Camp Street, New Orleans, La." Of this picture I had several copies made. On my visit to Newport in August 1872, I showed one to Mr. N. H. Gould and Dr. King of Redwood Library. They were glad to see it. The former (Mr. G.) said he had tried to get a likeness of Mr. Touro but was told there was none. He had heard Mr. Touro would not sit for his likeness, but that one morning whilst in his office, by the contrivance of his friends, a photograph was taken without his knowledge, the operator standing in the street; and Mr. Gould supposed this might be a copy. He promised to show it to some one who knew Mr. Touro well. In his letter of October 14<sup>th</sup> Mr. Gould writes me as follows:

I ascertained that Col. Jno. Winthrop would not be in Newport again before going South and as I mentioned he was on terms of intimacy with Mr. Touro, when living, occasionally walking with him during leisure hours, and often calling at his house, I therefore went to Providence where I was informed he had been, and fortunately found he had returned and was visiting his sister for a few days. I had an interview with him, talked the subject of the miniature over, when he repeated the story of there having been one taken &ca, and having informed him of the fact of there [having] been one found, which was supposed to be it, he immediately promised, if he saw it, to give his opinion of it as a likeness. I returned and forwarded it by mail with the note marked No. 1, and dated Oct. 3, 1872, and by the return mail received the reply marked No. 2., a copy of which I herein enclose. [See MS. No. 15, p. 216.]

[B. II, pp. 215-17]

ITEMS RELATING TO THE GOULD FAMILY AND THE JEWS  
OF NEWPORT.

RECORD OF LAND EVIDENCE, PREFACE TO COPIES OF DEEDS OF THE LOTS  
OF SYNAGOGUE AND CEMETERY, PAGE 3 & PAGE 32.

Extract from letter of Mr. N. H. Gould, Oct. 14, 1872:

Pursuing the investigation as to the Record of Land Evidence for the deeds of Cemetery and Synagogue lots, I found the old Record Book so broken and mutilated that it was impossible to make out the page or any of the items of the Cemetery deed. As you may recollect I informed you, the records were taken to New York during the war of the Revolution and the craft in which they were placed for transportation accidentally sunk in Hurl-gate [Hell Gate], that when the books were recovered there was no care taken of them, they were suffered to lay mildew and rot—the result today, the pages break and fly like chaff. But fortunately for this generation, there were then as now those who believe in multiplying copies of important documents subject to mutilation and decay, and there was a copy of that deed, and when brought to light some 90 years after it was executed, the precaution was taken to have the Copy re-recorded on the 19<sup>th</sup> of October 1767 and on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of October 1872, having found it among old uncalled for papers in the Record Office, I as one of the Trustees of the fund to keep the Cemetery in order claimed it, and under that date had it again re-recorded and herein send you a copy.

Further pursuing the search, by accident, not knowing in whose name the deed of the Synagogue Lot was taken or how held, we found the deed of that lot also with the certificates of Record, and found that my deceased uncle Stephen Gould had the original deed re-recorded June 7, 1827. Copy of deed &c. I here inclose with the certificate, seal, and Certificate of the City Clk.

[The certified copy of the Cemetery Deed above mentioned is now in the possession of the American Jewish Historical Society, and was obtained in 1907 from Mr. Stephen Gould, 2<sup>nd</sup>, son of Mr. N. H. Gould, through the efforts of Mr. Samuel Oppenheim. See *Publications*, No. 19, pp. 14 and 15.]

[B. III, pp. 89-90]

Memoranda from the Diary of the late Stephen Gould Esq., communicated by his nephew, N. H. Gould, Esq., Oct. 14<sup>th</sup>, 1872.

I then turned to the diary of my said deceased uncle Stephen Gould and there found the following.

1816, 5<sup>th</sup> month (May), Widow Lopez and family, also Widow Rivera, aged 96, sailed for New York.

1816, 10<sup>th</sup> month (October), Moses and Jacob Lopez went to New York—This was probably a prospecting tour for the purpose of consultation as to the probabilities of bettering their condition.

1822, 3<sup>d</sup> month, 18<sup>th</sup> (March), Jacob Lopez died, aged 70 years and 14 days.

1822, 10<sup>th</sup> month, 5<sup>th</sup> (October), Moses Lopez, the last Jew, left Newport for New York.

1822, 11<sup>th</sup> month, 28<sup>th</sup> (November), Joseph Lopez died in New York.

I find also the following relating to the Inclosure of the Cemetery Lot previous to the erection of the present one by Judah Touro in 1842:

The latter part of summer and autumn 1822. Abraham Touro (then a resident of the city of Boston), built a brick wall around the Jews' Cemetery at a cost of one thousand Dollars. Previous to this there was a tumble-down wooden fence about it, and badly decayed from time and neglect.

Mr. N. H. Gould, after giving much valuable information, thus concludes his letter of Oct. 14<sup>th</sup>, 1872:

Thus one part of history develops another. So that after a lapse of so many years, you will be able to get a clear and connected narrative for the information of future generations, that when Israel again light the altar fires in the ancient temple of their fathers here, they may feel that they too have a history and reputation to be proud of and to sustain, to be gathered from among the sepulchres of some of the earliest Israelites in the New World.

[B. III, pp. 91-93]

Letters and documents in possession of Mr. N. H. Gould from which the following copies are made, August, 1872:

No. 1.

Boston, June 22<sup>d</sup>, 1822.

Friend Stephen Gould: I hope by this time the work is completed, and done to please all, I mean you & myself, if it should turn out that it is not finished I wish you would have it done soon or let me know when it will be. If any friends call on thee for the keys to see the places, you will have the goodness to attend them, or let them have the keys with their promise to close all again and return them to you. With best wishes for the health of yourself and family, I remain with Esteem, Yours,

ABRAHAM TOURO.

If my friend C. Jones Esqr. wishes the keys let him have them to see the place. He is (of) Mrs. Champlins' family.

No. 2.

NEW YORK, March 21, 1822.

Mr. Stephen Gould. Dear Sir: Your letter of the 18<sup>th</sup> instant is this day to hand. Its contents conveys by request of my kinsman Moses Lopez the melancholy tidings of the Exit of his much lamented brother Jacob. This sudden & unexpected event proves truly very grievous to me & all his connections here, making no doubt, from the exemplary life he has led, he is now enjoying the rewards of the blessed. It affords much consolation to observe that during his illness he has experienced the benevolent attentions of his surrounding friends. This severe visitation to my worthy kinsman Moses under his infirm state of health is no doubt very agonizing to his feelings, but we must bow with resignation to the wise dispensations of the Almighty & I experience much comfort to notice he bears the separation with a becoming share of fortitude. I am under great obligations for your friendly attentions toward him in his forlorn state and for the circumstantial detail you have related of the distressing scene that has recently taken place. From that circumstance I am further induced to trespass on your goodness to crave you will use your best exertions to prevail on cousin Moses to embark for this place by the first packet after the receipt of this, leaving the adjustment of his concerns to be completed at a proper season, in the interim by a change of objects & an excursion by water (he) may in some measure contribute to alleviate the distress of his mind & to restore him [to] the enjoyment of better health. The attainment of such an object will prove very gratifying to his friends. I wrote Cousin Moses by Mail, tho' it was intended to go by Captn. Jacob Smith, who sail'd sooner than I expected. It was directed to your care. Excuse haste and believe me truly Your obliged friend,

JOSEPH LOPEZ.

No. 3. Addressed to "Friend Stephen Gould", Newport.

BOSTON, July 15, 1822.

Dear Friend. Your esteem'd favor by friend Jones was handed me, which contents please accept my thanks for your attention. I only have to remark as respects the covering the top of the wall, I shall leave it to you & better judges, only don't take off the top stone, why will not a [*sic*] on the wall & [*sic*] it, which will answer all effect I think, but do what you think best, but have it done. I don't know but what I shall come to see it after you have it finished. United with that of my sister Regards & pleas present to the family. I am, Yours with Esteem,

ABRAHAM TOURO.

Friend Stephen Gould, Np.

No. 4.

GREENWICH, December 12<sup>th</sup>, 1822.

Esteemed Friend Stephen Gould:

The inclosed letter written by my good & now deceased cousin Joseph Lopez in answer to your last favor was intended to be forwarded by Capt. Bliss the last time he went from here, but his dissolution taking place before the delivery of it on board it remained back, which was the cause of your not receiving a reply by him. He quitted this life very suddenly having been the preceeding day no worse than he appeared to be for some weeks past, which was indeed a severe trial to the whole family and in this unexpected event, they can only find a degree of consolation in the soothing reflection that his strict integrity joined to a heart replete with benevolence has secured to him a place of ever lasting rest in a better world. His afflicted mother being in an ill state of health is in want of some red sage for a medicine which she can not procure here. I bought some for her from Sally Whitfield before I left Newport. If she has any of this years growth, I request the particular favor of your getting one peck of it and let her put it up in some old cloth or box to come by Bliss, paying her for the whole & her trouble if you have any money in hand, if not I have no doubt she will be willing to wait till you receive the next quarters rent for the house, & excuse the liberty I take in making so free with you. My old complaint which is still my constant companion depriving me of handling the pen, my cousin Juliet is the writer of this & offers to be of my future letters to you, signing the same with my own name & referring myself to the inclosed letter for other particulars therein mentioned, I have only to add that, with much Esteem & regard, I am with Sincerity your real friend,

MOSES LOPEZ.



P. S. Since writing the above I am informed that my friend David Williams came passenger with Bliss. If I see him before he returns this will be handed you by him, if not I shall send it on board to go by the Capt.

December 15<sup>th</sup>. My letter being yet unsealed and waiting Bliss' departure allows me the opportunity of adding that yesterday your favor of the 30<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup> to my departed Cousin Joseph was received mentioning that a miliner had applied to hire my shop and that the rent you asked for it was Thirty five Dollars, which she thought too much, I am much obliged to you for your kind exertions in trying to get as much as you can for it, but as I think it more to my interest to lower the price than to have it shut up, I would not refuse the low rent of Twenty Dollars paid quarterly, if no more at present can be obtained, which little as it is will be very acceptable to me in my present circumstances. I thank you for your good wishes to have me appointed one of the Trustees to receive the legacy left by Touro to the Synagogue & the repairing of the Street in Newport, but you will do me a greater favor if through your means I can be exempted from that appointment, as my nervous & Rheumatic complaint, rather increasing, totally unfits me to take upon myself the management of such business, being more than half my time confined at home which will oblige me to decline. It will however afford me much pleasure to find that your Legislature will make choice of such disinterested & confidential men as in their wisdom they may think the money safe in their hand to answer effectually the purpose intended by the Testator, and as the town of Newport is to be so far benefited by it as to have one of its streets forever kept in good repair, I have no doubt my friend Gould as a warm patriot will think himself equally with me interested in its safety. My deceased uncle Aaron Lopez was founder of the Newport Synagogue & as he has two sons yet alive, Joshua & Samuel Lopez, as well as a grandson married in this city by the name of Aaron L. Gomez, a man I can recommend to be of the greatest integrity, I think they have the prior right to be appointed with two more men of the Congregation in this place. If through your influence with the members of the assembly & that of other friends can get them to be selected, I believe they are more entitled to the choice than any one and shall think them rather neglected if they are left out and the whole five nominated from the Society in this City. Pardon the length of this letter.

No. 5.

BOSTON, May 7, 1823.

Mr. Stephen Gould, Newport, Dear Sir: Your esteemed favor of 19<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup> came duly to hand & I note its contents. I enclose you a communication which I make to the Gen<sup>l</sup>: Assembly of Rhode Island which I wish you will cause to be laid before that body on the understanding that it is approved of in its form & expressions by Messrs. Champlain, Hunter & yourself. Should there be any objections to it, the subject may remain till the July session. I shall forward tomorrow to you a communication to the Municipal authority on the subject which I can not get ready today. Can you draw for the 150\$ for the burying ground or shall I remit it to you? Very truly in haste,

TITUS WELLES.

P. S. Enclosed is also the letter to the municipal authority.

No. 6.

To the Honorable the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island. Gentlemen. I take the liberty to inform your Honorable body that Abraham Touro Esq<sup>r</sup>. by his last will & Testament dated at Boston, 17 October, 1822, bequeathed a legacy in the following words, vizt:

"Item. I give Ten Thousand Dollars to the Legislature of the State of Rhode Island for the purpose of supporting the Jewish Synagogue in that State in special trust to be appropriated to that object in such manner as the said Legislature together with the Municipal authority of the Town of Newport may from time to time direct and appoint." Knowing that your annual meeting is at this season, I think proper to make this communication although I shall not be able to pay over the amount until the month of July or perhaps later. I deem it proper to make known the circumstance, that your Honorable body may think such order on the subject either by appointing a Committee to act with me and the municipal authority of Newport or otherwise as it may deem meet & proper until its next meeting. It may be timely for me to remark on the subject of this Bequest regarding what I suppose to have been the intention of the Donor. From the decayed state of the Synagogue in Newport, & the want of any family or persons of the Jewish persuasion there, the deceased with some others seriously resolved to look into the situation of the property and devise some plan to revive the Jewish religion there; and in such way and manner as to induce some of that nation to settle & keep up a worship at least in such a degree

that the building enclosures & the Institution itself should not go entirely to ruin & decay. It was also the intention of the deceased and others to have applied to your Honorable Body at the last fall sessions for an act granting & confirming to them a Deed of the Estate where the Synagogue stands in perpetual (although there is no dispute as to the right & title). Also for an act of incorporation & appointment of Trustees to the institution. The deceased upon his death bed and in a hurried moment in order to effect the object granted this Legacy. It is my wish as far as lays in my power to effect the purposes intended by the donor; and I flatter myself that your Honorable Body & the Municipal authority of Newport will have the same desire. I beg leave further to observe that the Hon. Christ: G. Champlin, Hon. Wm. Hunter & Mr. Stephen Gould of Newport have been acquainted with the deceased, with his connections and, I believe, in a degree with the proposed intentions upon which I have remarked. The latter gentleman has disinterestedly attended to & taken care of the burying ground & Synagogue, manifesting thereby his friendship & liberality. If not improper I would venture to suggest (without their consent or knowledge that they would serve) the propriety of appointing on the Committee of the Assembly or as Trustees of the fund one or all of those gentlemen as circumstances & the wisdom of the Assembly may dictate. I shall be happy to conform to any order that may be taken on the subject and am with all due respect, gentlemen, Your Ob<sup>t</sup>: Servant,

TITUS WELLES, Executor to the will

Dated at  
Boston, May 7, 1823.

of Abraham Touro, deceased.

No. 7.

Mr. Stephen Gould,

Boston, Sep. 19<sup>th</sup>, 1823.

Newport. Sir: Your letter of 28<sup>th</sup> ulto. & that of 15<sup>th</sup> instant are at hand—the latter annexing Mr. Stephen's bill for the monument & amounting to \$343.32 which I presume is correct. Having by payment of Legacies exhausted all the Cash of the Estate, I must ask Mr. Stephens to wait a few days, say till the first days of October, when I shall receive some dividends. I will then make the deposit as you request or sooner if I make some Collections. It is my present expectation to accompany Misses Touro and Lopez to Newport on their way to New York immediately after the 7<sup>th</sup> day of October, where they will remain for a day. I hope the wall may be quite & nearly finished by that

time. We will let the subject of Mr. Elkins' tombstone remain till we meet. Most truly I am yours,

TITUS WELLES, Executor.

No. 8.

NEW YORK, Decem. 10<sup>th</sup>, 1823.

Esteemed Friend Stephen Gould. Your friendly and very agreeable favor of the 6<sup>th</sup> of October last which was handed me by my cousin Juliet is now before me from which I deriv'd the usual gratification the rec<sup>t</sup>: of your letters always affords me, & to the same I should have sooner replied, if a particular motive which I shall herein mention did not oblige me to delay the answer a while longer. I noted with some surprise your saying that the Council was not inclin'd to allow you any compensation for your services in the care of the Synagogue and burying place, which information induced me to speak to Rebecca Touro on the subject to whom I observ'd that when I left Newport you was so kind as to offer yourself to be an agent there in my behalf without any view of emolument, purely to oblige me, for which I consider'd myself greatly indebted to you & that as her deceased brother had now left the Synagogue in possession of funds sufficient to make you a reasonable compensation, I thought you had a just right to expect it without my remaining any longer under the obligation to my good friend for this favor, desiring her in consequence of it to write to Mr. Wells, telling him that if thro' his influence as an executor you could not be in some way remunerated, I should not give you any further trouble & would send for the keys of both places, tho it would give me pain they should be left without an eye upon them to prevent their going to destruction. She complied with my said request in writing him and as I was determined not to answer your letter before she had an answer, I now inform you of his reply which was that he had no doubt friend Gould would have justice done (him) when the interest of the fund became due, & that he would do what laid in his power to that effect, therefore letting the matter rest for the present, I flatter myself the result will be agreeable to my wishes. It was pleasing to me to be informed of your wife's sister's marriage to a friend of Salem, who, from your description appears to be deserving of the good opinion I have form'd of his character & in return for your communication I think proper to impart to you a similar one of the same nature, by informing you that my cousin Juliet is shortly to be united in the conjugal state to a Mr. Levey, the widower of her eldest sister, who

having liv'd some time in Newport, I presume you may recollect, & as one of the two brides is as nigh allied to you as the other is to me, let us both join in our good wishes that they and their husbands may be happy together. Juliet sends her best regard to you and your good wife jointly with my own, which I desire you to extend to such others you may know to be my friends and in a particular manner to the three sisters, tenants in my house, with whom I sincerely condole on their recent heavy loss of their brother George, telling them that as I not long since met with the same loss myself, I well know from experience how to judge of their grief & sorrow which can only admit of a degree of consolation in the reflection that He who implanted in us the spirit of life has also a right to take it away when he pleases, & we are in duty bound to submit with resignation to His Divine Will. My obstinate Rheumatism growing rather worse and disabling me from pursuing any business, I am from necessity compelled against my inclination to request you to tell my friend Betsy, that if she can conveniently favor me in remitting my part of the rent every six months regularly instead of paying it quarterly, agreeable to our first agreement, she would oblige me much, but if it should so happen sometimes that she may not have it in her power to send the money at the precise period it becomes due, it's not my intention by any means to press hard upon her, rather submitting to wait a while longer rather than to disoblige her. I am in hopes you have succeeded in persuading Betsey Straton not to leave the shop even if the rent is lowered a little in the winter months, the \$7 for the last quarter's rent of which I recd by Cousin Juliet. Wishing to gratify your friend Moses Brown in his enquiry, you can tell him when you see him again that ever since our Society dwindled away to the two families of Lopez & Seixas, the Synagogue has been shut up & the five books of Moses were removed from it to prevent their being ruined by the dampness of the brick wall on the East side, where they were, which would have been the case if kept there, without being used. They are now in this city perhaps never to return to the same place again, unless in progress of time a congregation settles once more at Newport, of which the probability at present is very remote. I was pleased to hear that Nathan Manchester had done his best in the work at the burying ground which I should be much gratified to see, and fearing I shall trespass on your time in the reading of this long letter, I think it time to close it, with saying that with unabated regard & as much love as you express

yourself to have for me I am & shall ever continue to be, Your affectionate friend,

MOSES LOPEZ.

P. S. My cousin Joshua Lopez begs I would present you his affectionate regards as well as friend Rodman, your father in law in which I also join him, not by any means omitting your good mother & brother Isaac. I forgot to mention it would have been more satisfactory to me if you kept the \$3 the grass sold for, but as one half only was received & you declined taking it & have applied it to the payment of some little expences, I am perfectly satisfied.

No. 9. Friend Stephen Gould. I have received your esteemed favor of the 24<sup>th</sup>, informing of the intended sale of the House on the 1<sup>st</sup> inst. Our valued friend, my cousin Moses, will write you a few lines which will be handed you with this by my Brother Lewis Gomez, who will remain one day in your town on his way to Boston. Should the half of the house sell low he may possibly become the purchaser. You will much oblige me by advising with him on the subject. I do not wish it known that he intends purchasing, tho he will not give over a certain amount; at the same we wish to get it as low as possible. Will you go with him to the Town Clerk and examine if there any other incumbrances on D. Williams' part except Rodman's? Will Mr. Rodman let the mortgage stand? Your civilities to my brother will much oblige your friend.

A. L. GOMEZ, New York, July [January] 29, 1825.

No. 10.

NEW YORK, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 1825.

Esteemed Friend Stephen Gould. I had the pleasure of addressing you by our friend Edward Lawton when last here and as he is a near neighbour to you, I have no doubt my letter was punctually delivered. Therein I requested the favor of your giving me some information respecting my half the house on the Parade in which I am now concerned with Thomas & John Williams, and having received no reply to my enquiry, I again trouble my friend Stephen on that subject, relying he will not think I make too free with him in my own concerns. About four weeks ago a bro<sup>r</sup> of my friends the Miss Perrys called here to see me, but unfortunately I was out, which I much regretted as I wanted to ask some questions which probably he might answer. He mentioned to the family that the half part of the house now own'd by the s<sup>d</sup>: Thomas & John

Williams was to be sold in April next, from which I presume the sale is to be at Auction. If so and the time is appointed, permit me to solicit the favor of your immediately informing me of the day it is to be by the first packet, and if none offers, be kind enough to write by mail & in that case direct the letter to Aaron L. Gomez, a cousin of mine, as I am not in the way of calling at the Post Office. Perry also mentioned that half the roof is so rotten that it must be new shingled (the other half having been done by Elnathan Manchester before I left Newport), and you will oblige me much if you ask him to make an estimate of the whole expense required to shingle it as well as to repair the wash room & part of the fence in the yard & other small repairs, advising me of it as half of that expense is to be on my account and the other half on account of the new comer if Williams' part is sold, & excuse the liberty I take in being so troublesome to you. I shall be glad to know at the same time if the petition I sent last from Rebecca Touro has ever been presented to the Assembly. If it has not she desires you not to delay it any longer as it appears very singular to her and indeed to us all, that the interest of the money bequeathed by her brother for the preservation of the Synagogue should be kept in their hands unemployed and that building suffered to go to ruin, as Perry said it is fast decaying inside, contrary to the intent and meaning expressed in the Testators will. Accept mine and family's usual regards to yourself, wife, son & all your friends, & that the Father of Mercies may grant you health and every other desirable Blessing is the good wish of your sincere friend,

MOSES LOPEZ.

No. 11.

NEW YORK, Janry 28<sup>th</sup>, 1825.

Esteemed friend Stephen Gould. I did myself the pleasure of writing you last week by this conveyance of Capt'n. Lawton & had my letter delivered on board supposing he would soon depart, but being still here this day I avail myself of the same opportunity to acknowledge the receipt of one from you, since being dated so far back as the 27<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup> was brought to the house two days ago by a boy I did not see to inquire who had sent it and the cause of its having been kept undelivered. The \$6 it enclosed are safe to hand & you are entitled to my usual thanks for the regularity you observe in receiving & transmitting to me the quarter rent of my shop when it becomes due. The same thanks are also justly due to my obliging friend James Stevens for his attention in finishing

the stones to be placed at my dear deceased brother's grave, which please to tender him with my best regard, telling him I would be happy if I could in any way render him any services in the city. I observe you still retain in your hand Rebecca Touro's petition saying you are in hopes the Council will do something. It is her wish not to apply to them again but to have it laid before the Assembly at their next Session at Newport, as it contains not only what relates to your compensation, but a request for money to repair the Synagogue, if they will condescend to grant what in my opinion we have a just right to demand agreeable to the intent it was bequeathed for. I have put on board Capt. Lawton a square box and a round one in the shape of a drum. The first contains the Cookeys you wrote for, made fresh by a baker in my presence, which I request you to accept from me, not by any means as a recompense for your services to me, but as a token of my gratitude for the trouble I often give you in my concerns. The round box is a small present of figs which Rebecca Touro also begs your acceptance of. She was desirous of sending you something & not knowing what, I told her you are very fond of them, & with her best regards, desires me to say that while the children are feasting on the cookeys and a few other sweet things in the box, you are to eat them. My aunt Lopez also begs to be remembered to you, your good wife and son in which the rest of the family with myself join, and as her health is much impaired, she desires me to put you in mind of the red sage if any can be obtained this year, trusting you will excuse the freedom she takes. Fearing Lawton may go without this letter, am obliged to close with referring you to my first to which I expect from you an early answer to what I therein mention, respecting the sale of the house in April next, & remembering me to all friends without exception, be assured that I am with the same esteem & regard,  
Your sincere friend,

MOSES LOPEZ.

No. 12. Petition of Rebecca Touro. To the honorable General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island—Greeting—The undersigned with due respect beg leave to represent to your Honors, that the ancient members of the Hebrew Congregation once settled at Newport, having in the course of events been gradually decreasing in number for years past both by death and removal from the place, the town was finally left without *one* of us to take upon himself the care of our Synagogue & Burial ground, in which unpleasant situation the few individuals still remaining of that old



Society, now residents of New York, considering themselves at present as the proprietors of both, & that it is duly incumbent on them to prevent if possible their going to decay for want of a person to superintend them, thought it necessary to appoint Mr Stephen Gould as agent in their behalf for that purpose, depending on his receiving a reasonable yearly compensation for his services & loss of time from the interest of the legacy bequeathed to the Synagogue by my deceased brother, Abm. Touro, on which they had just reason to calculate from the information they obtained of my idea on the subject of that Legacy, which I think proper to communicate to your Honors, by stating that having myself a just conception of the object my said brother had in view when he made his will, my mind is beyond a doubt fully impressed that the interest arising from the fund of his liberal donation was intended to be appropriated for the benefit of the two places in any way conducive to keep them always in a state of complete repair, to be transmitted and conveyed to a succeeding Congregation which he then contemplated might in progress of time settle again at Newport. In support of my assertion, Your Honors will permit me to observe that a legacy was also bequeathed by him to the Town for an entire repair of a street, which having no claim on his bounty, the concern he manifested for its improvement proceeded from the reflection that both places were therein situated, which, being the primary object in his mind, your Honors will allow they are (to say the least) as much entitled to a part of the money left them for their preservation as the Street may be for its repair. An address signed by me and others was presented to the Hon<sup>ble</sup>: Town Council (in whose hands we were informed the money was placed) soliciting those Gentlemen their assent to our request of allowing Mr. Gould the aforesaid compensation, but they either for want of power in themselves or some other reason declining doing anything to meet our wishes, I now in my own name have recourse to the fountain head of that power vested in your Honors craving your approbation, which, if granted, I presume that with propriety I may further solicit, your Honors will be pleased to order that the am<sup>ts</sup>: of such bills as Mr. Gould will produce as vouchers for the work & the materials occasionally required may be tendered to him to pay those bills; and he shall be instructed to go no further in the expense, than it is not to be avoided, to refit what may appear rotten & defective in the building, supposing the other place is at present in good order, and shall only add that if my prayer is finally rejected

and both places are to be abandoned and forsaken to save a just recompense to an agent indispensably necessary to have a constant eye on them, they inevitably must go to ruin, contrary to my brother's laudable design. Entertaining however a hope that your honors, taking in consideration the legality of my petition which proceeds from a desire of having his wish strictly fulfilled, I feel a confidence your decision will be such as not frustrate it.

REBECCA TOURO.

No. 13. Answer upon the foregoing petition.

General Assembly of Rhode Island &ca. House of Representatives, Jany., 1825. The Committee to whom was referred the memorial of Rebecca Touro, praying a provision to be made by law for the compensation of the agent employed to keep in repair the Jewish Synagogue at Newport, respectfully report that all the objects contemplated by the memorial have been fully provided for in the second section of an act to secure and appropriate the Touro Jewish Synagogue fund, passed June A. D. 1823, by which it is enacted that the Town Council of the Town of Newport shall have authority to fix the compensation of said agent with the approbation of the General Assembly; and that all accounts and charges for expenditures of every kind out of said fund shall be presented to the general assembly, and if approved by them, shall be paid by the general Treasurer upon their order out of the interest or profits accruing on said fund. The Committee therefore request to be discharged from the further consideration of said memorial.

C. E. ROBBINS for the Committee.

Wednesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 1825.

Received, read & concurred in,

THOMAS RIVES, Clk.

No. 14. NEW YORK. Esteemed Friend Stephen Gould.

I have now before me your two acceptable letters of the 10<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> September, the former by the Steamboat did not reach my hands till two days after the letter rec<sup>d</sup>: by my cousin Delia. In noticing their contents I was not a little surprised that in your conversation with Mr. Welles you joined him in the opinion that it is best to let the Council superintend the repairs of the Synagogue as they agree to return you the keys when the work is done, but whether it is or not their intention to allow you an annual compensation when you get them again in your hands, you are silent on that part which ought to have been ascertained

by Mr. Wells in the conference he had with Mr. Enis. That building is now consider'd as own'd at present by the Hebrew Society in this city and I am doubtful whether the Trustees of it will tamely submit to the forced agency of the Council to repair their own property without their consent. It is my opinion that to avoid contention they may assent to it, provided the future compensation is granted, and if it is not, I am determined to send for the keys and place them in their hands that *they may do what they please with them*, as you have obliged me long enough to wish your further services any longer for nothing in an affair where a whole Society is concerned. At present please to retain them yourself till you hear from me or them. My cousin Aaron L. Gomez had the perusal of that part of your letter relating to his late purchase of half the house, which, as well as my other half, you represent in an untenable situation. From an arrangement we made between us, he has agreed to put the whole in complete repair & told me he would write to you requesting your immediate attention to the shingling of the roof & of doing further what may appear absolutely necessary at present for the comfort of our tenants, leaving the rest for the Spring or Summer when he will finish the whole & probably paint the house. By the description I gave him of your character, he flatters himself you will have the work done as reasonable as you possibly can, of which I have no doubt & you may inform the occupants of the house & shop that as we will not part with so good people, we are both willing the rent may continue the same as hitherto, that is to say \$40 from my friend Betsy Perry, \$35 from Mrs. Eldred & \$24 from Miss Straton, payable as usual. The small part I had of the store in the yard being not included in our bargain, the family may improve it so long as we find no use for the whole store, but must be given up if we can do anything with it. As for Job Wylbour we do not wish to be hard with him, as he is a clever fellow, but we think \$30 a small rent for such a pleasant corner shop, as he well knows his master Williams paid \$70 for the one he moved out of by the Court House. David had a room in the upper story where he had his machine to cut the teeth of his clock wheels. If Job intends to keep it, we leave you to make the best bargain you can for it & the shop, *doing Justice to both sides*. The \$4.94 inclosed in your letter I have rec<sup>d</sup>: as a balance due me after deducting \$1.06 expense for Setting the stones, from the \$6 paid by Betsy Straton, for which accept my just thanks & for the trouble you had with those stones. They are also offered

very sincerely to you by my Aunt Lopez for your valuable present of the sage with which she was much pleased, and desires jointly with the family to be remembered to you & your wife very particularly. I can not yet say who is to be the bearer of this, which if it comes to hand before the rect of my cousin's letter, you are not to begin any work on the house before you hear from him, and when you do, I recommend Manchester as the head carpenter. With my best wishes for your health & prosperity, I am as ever,  
Your sincere friend,

MOSES LOPEZ.

Dear Sir. My good cousin Moses has just informed me the contents of the annexed letter. You will particularly oblige both of us by having the roof of the house shingled on the best terms you can and any other repairs that require immediate doing, the cost of the same when completed you will value on me at sight. Your attention to this will oblige, Your friend,

A. L. GOMEZ.

NEW YORK, Sep. 29, 1826.

No. 15.

NEW YORK, March 23<sup>d</sup>, 1827. To the much Esteemed & highly regarded Friend Stephen Gould. Greeting. As I am always fond of following the example of good men I begin my letter in the same stile as you did your own to me of the 10<sup>th</sup> Just rec<sup>d</sup> a few days past by the Steamboat, being the first that reached my hand from you in eight months; as I had concluded from your long & mysterious neglect, it was your intention not to write me again, it of course became more than double welcome by its being rather unexpected. I was fully persuaded in my mind you was offended at something I could not account for & feel myself highly gratified in observing I was deceived in my conjecture & that I still hold a place in your esteem by saying I misconstrued your silence, assuring me that your friendship toward me continues as ever pure, sincere and undiminished. Mine toward you, I trust you will not doubt my word, if I say I still retain in the same original state of purity as it at first began 30 years ago by your own account, & as we are both fully satisfied that no offense was intended by either of us, the subject is too unpleasant to say any more upon it, & dismissing it to the shades of oblivion, proceed to inform you that, having gone so far in this letter, I had the pleasure of receiving a second one from you by young Tillinghast (the intended bearer hereof), dated the 15<sup>th</sup> instant, inclosing

\$28.50 for three quarters rent of Job Wilbour to the 30<sup>th</sup> of this present month, & one quarter of Julian Brownel to the 20<sup>th</sup> of September last, she still being indebted for two quarters more. It is painful for me to think it will ever be out of my power in any degree to return the many obligations I am under for your kind attention to my concerns in a way more consonant with my wishes than mere words of thanks, which as I can do no better I again repeat with the feelings of gratitude. In addition to my old complaint, the Rheumatism, which still hangs on me as bad as ever, I seven months ago accidentally had a fall in our yard by which the skin on the shin of my left leg was so broken and bruised that I stood in need of applying to medical aid, the Doctor visiting me now & then for 4 months but could not in all that time succeed in healing the wound. At length a lady here more skilful than he proved to be, undertook the case and in about six weeks longer she closed it entirely, leaving however the sinews of my leg so contracted that I am yet confined & expect to be till the weather becomes warmer, which she says will gradually wear off the contraction. To such unforeseen casualties is human nature liable. Yesterday I had a letter from Betsy Perry enclosing \$11. for which I now send a rect. Please to deliver it to her & tell her I will write her an answer by another opportunity. It would have been very pleasing to me to see your son John here last Fall on his way to Hudson where he is to be a year before you & his mother may have the pleasure of seeing him again. With my sincere regards to her as well as to yourself, united as usual with those of the family, Rebecca Touro included, I assure you both he has best wishes for his good success in his first setting out in the world, the confirmation of which as the son of so good parents will be very gratifying to Your most sincere friend,

MOSES LOPEZ.

P. S. My cousin Hannah Rivera coming in when I was closing this, requested me to add that considering herself much indebted to you & your wife for your kindness to her deceased son Jacob, she desires in a particular manner to be remembered to you both.

No. 16.

NEW YORK, Septbr. 7<sup>th</sup>, 1827. Esteemed Friend Stephen Gould. Your friendly letter under date the 27<sup>th</sup> July, 24<sup>th</sup> of August & 2<sup>nd</sup> September, was handed me by Obadiah Williams' son, enclosing a United States bill of \$20 being part of the last quarter rents received in full of B. Perry & N. Eldred & J. Wilbour, retaining

In your hands Six Dollars 25 Cents of it to pay Manchester when he finishes the work he agreed to do at the house, and for your obliging attention in collecting and remitting the money, I can offer the feeble return of my sincere thanks. It would be pleasing to me if the Widow Brownel had also settled what she is in arrears, but as you think the debt is safe I shall wait with patience until she gives up the shop as you advise me she intends to leave it, & that a young woman by the name of Coggeshall had applied for it. If I shall be at the expense of four or five dollars to give it a daub of paint and allow her to have some alteration done inside, which indeed I could not dispense with, but will comply with her wish if the rent paid quarterly will not be less than it has been. I shall not consent to her taking down the shelves or counters, being assured that other tenants will rather have them and pay more for the shop than they will without them when she quits it. I notice that the Council appointed William Enis & Freeborn to repair the Synagogue and that they were willing to employ Manchester, who altho they may think he is slower than some other carpenters, I call him a good workman, which is to be considered and I desire you to tell them so from me. From what I find by your letter in regard to what they calculate to do, I think they are inclined to be at more expense than we would dare to attempt ourselves if we did the work, as the money being at their disposal, they might object to it, but as they are to pay it, we are fully satisfied, & if the trees you mention are in their way, they may cut them down. As the main object that carried me to Newport was to obtain your compensation if possible, I expected from what I understood from Mr. Enis the yearly sum would be fixed and sanctioned by the Assembly when in session there, but as you are silent on that subject I presume nothing was done about it then. To comply with my promise I shall enclose in this one of my calendars unbound, as I have not one single bound one left on hand and will also send you a receipt I omitted giving you when I had your account settled in full of all accounts to the 24<sup>th</sup> of May last at the time you was here. It is in the handwriting of my cousin Joshua Lopez, as I am unfortunately daily more & more disabled to handle the pen, & to my other cousin Juliet Levy I am indebted for copying this letter, which prevented my writing you before & the same cause obliges me now to go no further at present than to add mine & families cordial regards joined with Miss Touro's to yourself, good wife, mother, connexions & all friends, & say that I am, as ever, Your sincere friend,

MOSES LOPEZ.

September 24<sup>th</sup>. By the date of the preceeding letter you will see I was not unmindful in giving you an earlier reply, but no opportunity appearing for Newport since (which is still the case) gives me a chance to say further that a few days after young Rodman handed me another short letter from you directing me where I might find Capt. Earl, but it was by Williams I received the twenty dollars as said before. Yesterday a third letter reached my hand, the purport of which being principally on the subject of the Synagogue I lost no time in laying it before the Trustees of this Congregation & herein you will find enclosed a letter from them to the council unsealed for your perusal, to which please put a wafer & deliver it to Mr. Enis; & as you say he offered to apply himself to the Assembly for their assent to paint the cap of the wall at the Burying place, it will be a good juncture to stipulate then your said compensation which is to begin when you are again put in possession of the keys as agreed upon. I mentioned to Rebecca Touro what you say respecting the flat stones left of the old cap. She thinks as you do, but finally said they may put them to any use they please, and as I join with you both in the opinion that it will be best to keep them, I would advise to reserve those that are long enough & may answer for grave stones, & let them have such as are too short for that purpose, or else keep the whole if you think best. As I write about stones, there is one under the gate of the Synagogue yard, which being too rough and of an ugly shape, it would be well to replace it with a more decent one if approved of, it being a conspicuous place to be observed by strangers when they come in. You misunderstand me in saying that the red sage was cut while I was there, the widow Boss told me that September was the proper time to cut it & that she would let it dry before you could have it to send here. My aunt Lopez was very sorry to be informed it all died away. I will not tire you with a longer letter, well knowing that time is more precious to you than it is to me at present in my invalid state, and although a lengthy letter from you I always read with pleasure, shall be contented with short replys to mine, as it is not my wish to put my friend to a great deal of trouble. The Trustees returned me the letter to the Council I sent them to sign, with a large blot of ink upon it, which I suppose happened by some accident, please to make an apology for it to Mr. Enis.

No. 17.

NEW YORK, Oct<sup>r</sup>: 9<sup>th</sup>, 1827. Esteemed friend Stephen Gould. Yesterday afternoon I had the pleasure of breaking the seal of

your friendly letter of the 28<sup>th</sup> September, handed to me by my friend your brother Isaac, who I was indeed glad to see & as he said he would tarry here only three or four days, I told him that as I looked him in the light of a living letter to communicate to you a great part of what I could now say, I should be short in my reply & only take notice of some particular points mentioned in your s<sup>d</sup>: letter. In the first place, I observed you receiv<sup>d</sup>: my letter by Captn. Perry which was handed to him last week, & secondly, I have to return you my grateful thanks for my being exempted thro your means from paying one half of the Tax on the House, which by the enclosed Collectors receipt of the other half is \$3.44, & as this favor was intended by you to be for my own benefit alone, Betsy Perry & her sister Eldred ought to pay it, as my agreement with them from the beginning was that they were to pay one half of all the taxes; of course I think you can with propriety call upon them for the \$3.44 without letting them know that by your kindness I paid nothing for my half. I was glad to be informed that the repairs of the Synagogue were going on so well & to the satisfaction of the parties concerned in that business, and was also pleased to hear you imparted to our friend Saml. Rodman the conversation I had with you, and I consider myself much oblig<sup>d</sup>: to him for the good opinion he entertains of me whether I am deserving of it or not. As I intended to write but a few lines at this time I think I must stop here and go no farther than to close as usual with my sincere regards united with those of the family & Rebecca Touro to your wife & all friends in general, both connexions & others, desireing you to tell Doct<sup>r</sup>: Hazard I thank him for his remembrance of me, and am as I ever have been, Your sincere friend,

MOSES LOPEZ.

[B. II, pp. 169-95.]



## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS RELATING TO JEWS OF NEWPORT.

### ACT

passed Session General Assembly holden in Providence on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of December, 1766, to be found on pages 6 and 7, Schedule of that session, City clerks' office, this city.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly and by the authority thereof it is enacted. That it shall and may be Lawfull for the Governor, the Deputy Governor, or any of the Assistant or Judges either of the Superior or Inferior Court or any of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace to tender the Oath of allegiance and abjuration unto and cause the same to be taken and subscribed according to the Statute in the case made and provided by any person or persons whomsoever, whom either of the officers above mentioned shall suspect to be dangerous or disaffected to His Majesty's person or government. And if such person or persons shall refuse to take and subscribe the oaths aforesaid, the officer who tender the same shall certify the refusal thereof unto the next Court of General Sessions of the Peace, that may be holden in the County where the offence shall happen; and if he or they shall then also refuse, such refusal shall be recorded in the Book of Records to said Court belonging. And all persons so neglecting or refusing to take and subscribe the oath aforesaid shall be adjudged upon such last neglect or refusal Popish Recusants, Convicts, and shall be proceeded against as such for the forfeiture for his or their goods and Chattels, Lands and Tenements, to His Majesty for the use of the Colony. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, that each and every officer above mentioned may by writing under his hand and seal summon any person or persons suspected as aforesaid to appear before him at such time and place as he shall cause to appoint, then and there to take and subscribe the oaths aforesaid, which

summons shall be served on such person or persons or left at his or their house or usual place of abode with one of the family, and if such person or persons shall not appear according to the summons, then on oath made that the said summons was served in the aforesaid manner, the officer who issued the same shall make a Certificate thereof unto the next Court of General Sessions of the Peace in the County where the said summons was granted there to be entered in the Book of Records to said Court belonging. And if such person or persons shall not make his or their appearance at the said session and then and there subscribe and take the oaths aforesaid his or her name or names shall be publicly read at the first meeting of said sessions and he or they shall be esteemed a Popish Recusant, Convict or Convicts, and shall forfeit to His Majesty all his or their goods and Chattels, Lands and Tenements accordingly to and for the use of the Colony. [Cf. MS. No. 314, p. 184.]

[B. III, pp. 99-101]

Picture of the Old Stone Mill at Newport.

[B. II, p. 168]

The Old Stone Mill at Newport, R. I.

[B. II, p. 168]

Article on "Old Stone Mill" from *New York Herald*, Oct. 19 and 21, 1880.

[B. II, p. 218]

Jewish items in Arnold's "History of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations," 1636-1700. New York, 1859.

[B. II, pp. 19-36]

Trial and acquittal of Mordecai Campanal and others in Newport, 1685. [See Samuel Oppenheim, *Publications*, No. 19, p. 16. Also Transcript of Dyre suit published herein, pp. 175-177.]

[B. III, pp. 95-98]

From "Records of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations in New England, printed by order of the Legislature, transcribed and edited by John Russel Bartlett, Secretary of State, 1856." This includes the following:

Vol. 2, p. 138: Among the "freemen" of Newport proposed and accepted is: Micall Phillips (Was he a Jew? J. J. L.).

Vol. 4, 1739: Among freemen of Newport admitted 1739 May is Joseph Silvester. (Was he a Jew? J. J. L.)

Vol. 5, p. 375: Petition of Moses Lopez, October 1753, as to manufacture of potash.

Vol. 5, p. 84: In the proceedings of the General Assembly held for the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations at Newport the 2nd of May 1774, among the Deputies of Newport is Mr Joseph Jacob.

Vol. 5, p. 76: One of the 4 members who protested against "an act for emitting the sum of £40,000 in Bills of public credit of the new tenor to be let upon loan," is Joseph Jacob, Febry. 4th, 1743-1744.

Vol. 5, p. 307: Among the Proceedings of the General Assembly for the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations at Newport the 3d Monday of August 1750, the following appears:

"Whereas Moses Lopez of Newport in the County of Newport, Merchant, represented unto this assembly that he hath for several years past, translated letters and papers from the Spanish into English for the use of the government, which he has declined being paid for, inasmuch as it was for said use; that he is ready and willing at all times to do the like and desires no other gratuity than to be exempted from all other personal duties in the Colony, during his residence therein, and prayed that an act might be passed accordingly,

On consideration whereof this assembly do vote and enact, and it is voted and enacted that the said Moses Lopez be, and he is hereby exempted from all personal duties in this Colony, excepting the above mentioned, until the General Assembly will order otherwise." [See Max J. Kohler *Publications*, No. 6, p. 72.]

Vol. 6, p. 262: Proceedings of the General Assembly &ca., 31 December 1760, includes "an act to naturalize James Lucena, formerly of Portugal."

Vol. 6, p. 267: Febyry. 1761. Among the Proceedings of the General Assembly held for the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations at East Greenwich, February 23d, 1761, the following appears: "Whereas James Lucena, late a subject of the King of Portugal, but now a naturalized citizen of Newport, in the County of Newport, merchant, preferred a petition and represented unto this assembly that he hath acquired from the king's manufactory in Portugal the true method of making soap of the same kind and quality as that made in Castile in Spain and called Castile Soap; that he proposes to set up the manufactory thereof in this colony; that the procuring one of the chief materials will employ many poor people and the manufactory be otherwise highly beneficial to the public by furnishing a great and valuable article of commerce which may be exported to all parts of the continent, to the West Indies &ca, and thereupon prayed the assembly to pass an act granting him the sole privilege of making and vending the said Castile Soap for the time of ten years from the rising of the assembly and prohibit all other persons whatsoever from making soap during that term of the same new materials which he proposes to use under such penalties as may be sufficient to secure the business of the petitioner; and the said James Lucena further represented that he did not mean thereby to exclude others from making any kind of soap now usually made in this colony; but only such as might from his example be induced to make it with his new materials which were never used in this Colony; on consideration whereof Be it enacted by this General Assembly and by the authority of the same be it enacted that the prayer of the said James Lucena be and the same is hereby granted, upon condition that he proceed upon the manufactory aforesaid within two years from the rising of this assembly and that at the end or expiration of the above mentioned term of ten years he discover the secret or mystery of the said business or manufacture to the General Assembly of this Colony or to such person or persons as shall be by them appointed to receive the same upon the penalty of £1000 Sterling."

Vol. 7, p. 608: Among the Proceedings of the General Assembly held at Providence, first Monday September 1776, appears the following: "It is voted and resolved that the four four-pounders

belonging to Mr. Henry John Overing and the three four-pounders belonging to Jacob Isaacs in the possession of this State, be delivered to John Smith, he producing an order for the same from the aforementioned persons, they first making proof of their property to the satisfaction of Peter Phillips, Esqr., and giving up the receipts given therefor in behalf of this State."

Vol. 7, p. 213: Among the Proceedings of the General Assembly held at Newport on the third Monday in August 1773, appears the following: "Whereas a number of merchants in this colony preferred a petition and represented to this assembly that they have for several years past been concerned in prosecuting that valuable branch of business, the Codfishery, in and near the Gulf of St. Lawrence, by which a great number of industrious poor have been employed and supported and an advantageous circulation of specie promoted, and that the permission granted by His Majesty to his subjects to carry on the said fishery being not sufficiently explicit, the same is thereby rendered precarious; and is particularly greatly endangered by a certain bill before a committee of the Honorable House of Commons of Great Britain for encouraging the fishing aforesaid &c. And thereupon they prayed this assembly to interpose in their behalf with His Majesty's Ministers and procure their cause so to be represented to His Majesty that they may by Royal indulgence be permitted to prosecute their fishing business in its full extent at Isle Bonaventure, Isle Pierre, Point St. Peter and elsewhere in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, without obstruction or hindrance and that the fishing in those parts may by no means be converted into private property or monopolized by a Company; and the said petition being duly considered, It is voted and resolved that Messrs. Aaron Lopez, George Gibbs and William Vernon be, and they or the major part of them are hereby appointed a committee to prepare a draught of a letter respecting the matter set forth in the said petition to be sent to His Majesty's Secretary of State, and that they lay the same before the assembly."

Vol. 7, p. 462: Among the proceedings of the General Assembly held at East Greenwich on the last Monday in February 1776, the following appears: "Whereas Mr. Aaron Lopez exhibited unto this assembly an account by him charged against the Colony for four half-barrels of gun powder delivered for the use of the Colony and one whale boat, which said account being duly examined,—It is voted and resolved that the same be and hereby is allowed, and

that the amount thereof being £22.16S, lawful money be paid the said Aaron Lopez out of the general treasury."

Vol. 9, p. 139: Among the Proceedings of the General Assembly held at Providence first Monday in July 1780, the following appears. "An Act to prevent certain persons there named, and others who have left this State or either of the United States of America and joined the enemy; or who have joined the enemy in this State, from being admitted within this State." [Among the names we find] Isaac Hart

Sam. Hart

Moses Hart

Sam. Hart, Jr., all merchants and late of Newport.

Vol. 9, p. 419: Among the Proceedings of the General Assembly &ca. held at Providence on the 4th Monday in May 1781, appears the following: "It is voted and resolved that the Sheriff of the County of Kings County either by himself or deputy, immediately take possession of the real estate of David Benjamin in Exeter in behalf of this State." (No reason given.—J. J. L.)

Vol. 9, p. 187: Among the Proceedings of the General Assembly held at Newport on the third Monday in July 1780, the following appears: "Whereas a part of the personal estate of Myer Pollock late of Newport, deceased, hath by order of the council of war been taken possession of by the Sheriff of the County of Newport and a sum of money due to the said estate detained in the hands of the quarter master general; and whereas there are debts due from the said estate, and no administration hath as yet been appointed to adjust and discharge the same,—It is therefore voted and resolved that the town council of the town of Newport be and they are hereby directed to appoint an administrator to the said Estate according to law, and that the person who shall be so appointed be and he is hereby empowered to receive from the said Sheriff and quarter master general the goods and money aforesaid and to administer thereon agreeably to law."

[B. II, pp. 1-17]

The Genealogy of the Lopez family. Presented by Sarah Lopez to her friend Mrs. Priscilla Lopez of Charleston by her request.

The above is the title of a paper at present in possession of Nathan Hart, grandson of Aaron Lopez Gomez, who obtained

it from his mother, Mrs. Maria Hart, née Gomez. It was given to her by Miss Mary Ann Lopez, daughter of Samuel Lopez of Newport, Rhode Island.

[See Max J. Kohler, *Publications*, No. 2, pp. 101-106.]

[B. II, pp. 126-31; B. IV, pp. 99-101]

Extracts from "Historical Sketch of the Redwood Library and Athenaeum in Newport, Rhode Island, by David King, M. D., Boston, 1860."

The<sup>1</sup> first meeting of the Redwood Library Company, after their incorporation, was held in the Council chamber in Newport, on the last Wednesday in September, 1747. Among the officers elected is Joseph Jacobs, Treasurer.

The author speaking of Rev. Ezra Stiles, says:

His<sup>2</sup> zeal for the diffusion of knowledge led him to solicit for the Library valuable works from European authors. Many of these works, obtained through his instrumentality are still preserved in the Library. The copy of Montanus's "Hebrew Bible and Dictionary" now belonging to the Library enabled him to perfect his knowledge of the Hebrew language."<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Page 5.

<sup>2</sup> Page 6.

<sup>3</sup> "In a fly leaf of Montanus's *Biblia Sacra Polyglotta* in the Library, is recorded, in the handwriting of the Rev. Dr. Ezra Stiles, the following memorandum, which is copied to illustrate the frugal manner observed at that time in making additions to the Library: January 5, 1774.—Montanus's Polyglot, &c. in 8 Vols. folio, price 21 1/3 Dollars, or £4. 16 S. Sterling was given to the Redwood Library in Newport. R. I. by the following persons: viz. the Hon. Abraham Redwood, Esq. the founder, two guineas, or 9 1/3 Dollars; Mr. Francis Malbone, 1 1/2 dollar; Mr. James Rod. Rivera, 1 1/2 dollar; Mr. Aaron Lopez, 1 dollar; Gov. Josias Lyndon, 1 dollar; Henry Marchant, Attorney General, 1 dollar; Dr. William Hunter, 1 dollar; Mr. John Bours, 1 dollar; Mr. Isaac Hart, 1 dollar; Mr. Samuel Rodman, 1 dollar; Mr. John Cranston 1/2 dollar; Ezra Stiles, 1 dollar; viz., 21 1/3 dollars The books received and deposited in the Redwood Library, by Ezra Stiles, Librarian." [Page 12]

In 1750 at the very commencement of the Library, valuable donations of books were made by several gentlemen. . . . Valuable works were given also by Capt Wm Dunbar; Capt. Joseph Bull; Mr. Wm. Stevens; Mr. John. Chaloner; Mr. Simon Rhodes; Mr Naphtaly Hart Myers; Mr. Abraham Hart and others.<sup>1</sup>

Donations of books were also made during 1752, by Benjn. Wickham, Mr. Michael Bland of London, and Capt. Joseph Jacob.<sup>2</sup>

In January 1844, the Library Company received from Judah Touro. Esq., of New Orleans, a native of Newport, the gift of two thousand dollars; which sum according to the wish of the donor, was appropriated to the repair of the portico of the building, and to the laying of a side walk in East Touro Street, from the Library Building to the Corner of Kay Street. Mr. Touro, at his death in 1854, left the liberal bequest of three thousand dollars to promote the interests of the Institution; which sum was transmitted by R. D. Shephard, Esq., executor, to the President of the Institution. The sum was properly invested at the time, and the interest of the money annually devoted to the purchase of books.<sup>3</sup>

Among the names of Subscribers in 1857 & 1858 for the Library Stock are

Joseph M. Hart 4 shares	\$100
P. J. Joachimsen 1 share	25 <sup>4</sup>

Among the names of gentlemen who gave a course of free lectures in the winter of 1859 & 1860, H. M. Monsanto.<sup>5</sup>

In the list of members from 1747 to 1860 are the following names: <sup>6</sup>

1747, Abraham Hart.

1858, Joseph M. Hart.

1747, Joseph Jacob, died 1778, one who first applied for charter.

1858, P. J. Joachimsen.

1749, Moses Lopez, membership expired 1758.

<sup>1</sup> Pages 10-11.

<sup>2</sup> Page 11.

<sup>3</sup> Page 18.

<sup>4</sup> Pages 20, 21.

<sup>5</sup> Page 24.

<sup>6</sup> Page 44.



1808, Joseph Lopez Membership expired	1817.
1810, Samuel Lopez	“ “ 1813.
1747, Joseph Phillips	“ “ 1753.
1758, Jacob Rodriquez Rivera, Died in	1789.
1789, Abraham R. Rivera.	

Among the Honorary Members<sup>1</sup>

1843, Judah Touro, Esq., of New Orleans.

1854, A. K. Josephs, Esq., of New Orleans.

*Till here from Dr. King's Sketch.*

[B. III, pp. 80-84]

Description of a painting on wood deposited by Col. T. Bailey Myers in Redwood Library:

The picture is about 5 feet long and 2 feet wide. It represents Newport previous to 1740, the city in the rear, the river in the middle and Fort George in front. Ships are on the water flying the old Colonial flag, one like which is still in possession of Messrs. N. H. & D. Gould. This picture was originally painted on a panel over a mantelpiece in the house of Joseph Clark, Esq., for many years general treasurer of the Colony of Rhode Island, great uncle of the Messrs. Gould. When the house was sold out of the family, the picture was cut out of the panel and disposed of to one of the family of Mr. Mordecai Myers, the father of T. Bailey Myers, Esq. The picture is marked, "Deposited by Col. T. Bailey Myers, Newport, R. I. 1776."

[B. III, pp. 84-85]

Whilst in Newport in August 1873, I visited Mr Sam<sup>l</sup>. Engs at his residence in Kay Street, 3<sup>d</sup> house from the Cemetery. He showed me an old "waste book" of John Bannister, merchant in 1746-1747, wherein I saw an entry of Jacob Rod. Rivera of N. Y. He is charged 1747, January 12. Goods sent from Newport to New York £149.18.5. Mr. Engs was willing

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<sup>1</sup> Page 49.

to lend me this book but I did not wish to take the responsibility of the care of this relic.

[B. III, p. 93]

Pictures of Jacob Rodriques Rivera and of Aaron Lopez. Both are faded; both men appear in costume of revolutionary period, in stock, white wig, etc.

[B. III, pp. 74, 75]

Portrait of Sarah Lopez with her son Joshuah; so faded as hardly to be distinguishable.

[B. III, p. 76]

Extracts from the contents of a book entitled: "Reunion of the sons and daughters of Newport, R. I., August 23, 1859, by George C. Mason, compiled and printed by order of the general committee of arrangements, Newport, R. I. Fred. A. Pratt & Co., City printers, 1859."

P. W. Engs, Esqr., of New York, in reply to the invitation of the Committee refers to the men of olden time, and speaking of the commercial men of Newport says:<sup>1</sup>

But it will not be invidious to speak of John Bannister and Aaron Lopez, because they were so identified with Newport, in the days of her greatest commercial prosperity, that to mention them is to tell of her early commerce—those golden days, when, availing of natural advantages, our little city held a proud preëminence in the seaports of our country, and her merchants gave to their calling that character of industrious integrity which is "religion at the mart".

His Honor Mayor Cranston in his opening address says:<sup>2</sup>

It was on this our native soil, that the great and glorious principle of religious liberty, which had fearfully agitated the old world and contending for which thousands of human beings suffered a martyr's death,—it was here in Rhode Island, where we were born, that this sacred and eternal principle of religious liberty—freedom to worship God in an unmolested manner,

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<sup>1</sup> Page 27.

<sup>2</sup> Page 59.



JACOB RODRIQUES RIVERA.  
1717-1789.



according to the dictates of each one's conscience and absolute separation between Church and State—was first thoroughly, practically and successfully demonstrated by Roger Williams, John Clarke and their associates. From the first settlement of the state to the present time, the authorities have ever scrupulously guarded, and the people have ever constantly and sacredly cherished this hallowed and immortal right of man.

The<sup>1</sup> Newport of to-day is not the Newport which many of you left in your boyhood and girlhood years. Still, there are cherished and enduring landmarks remaining which you can not fail to recognize. The noble beaches, where the sublime and eternal anthems to Almighty God<sup>2</sup> are ever heard; the spacious and beautiful harbor, inviting an extensive commerce to its bosom; the rock-bound shore, which has repelled the dashing and maddened waves of the ocean since the morning of creation; the old stone mill, with its alternate classic and matter-of-fact traditionary history,—the Redwood Library, where Dr. Channing “studied Theology without an Instructor”; the “Hanging Rocks,” where Bishop Berkeley wrote his “Minute Philosopher”; “Paradise,” and “Purgatory”; the old Synagogue the first erected in the United States, where the Jews ever worshipped in an unmolested manner<sup>3</sup>; the cemetery, where repose the remains of the Jews who, nearly a century ago, were among the prominent merchants of Newport, at the time the principal importations from Europe were made to this port, and when it was thought by a *few progressive people*, that, at some distant day New York *might possibly rival* Newport as a commercial and mercantile city,—with other monuments of the past, nearly all remain unchanged, to remind you, that you are once more at home, on your green native isle of the sea.

From the address of Dr. Walter Channing:<sup>4</sup>

Commerce was a most favored pursuit and wealth its frequent product. We sent onions from Bristol and New England rum from everywhere. We sent all sorts of articles for exchange and received all sorts of merchandise in return. There was a large

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<sup>1</sup> Page 69.

<sup>2</sup> In the original the ineffable name.

<sup>3</sup> The Mayor was mistaken. The Synagogue in New York was built in 1730; and that of Newport in 1763.

<sup>4</sup> Pages 71; 76.

China, and Russian and African business done, and wealth came from it all. Mercantile business was a profession. Young men were regularly taught its principles, and these, when truly taught, are rarely forgotten; how rare, then, were failures, and crises, and panics or suspensions of specie payments. No: there was the Newport Bank, on the old Parade, and there was Mr. Cashier Moses Seixas, and you got silver or gold for your check for the asking.

Speaking of the different churches he says:

There was the Synagogue, which, being the oldest of the temples of India and Egypt, deserves the first place. The worship-day was on Saturday, and how often have I stood just within the door, and seen the Israelites shuffling about with their hats on, and the Rabbi reading the evening-service, all being in motion, I suppose in imitation of the forty years' travel to Canaan.

[There are items of lesser interest at pp. 104, 124-30.]

From Speech of Thomas Vernon Esq of New York<sup>1</sup>:

How proud and glorious are the historical associations of old Newport! We boast that Newport was once the metropolis of the colonies and the seat of letters and refinement on this continent. Our noble harbor once bristled with forests of masts; here lived merchant princes, known all over North America, and whose influence and correspondence was solicited by European houses; here, too, the thrifty Jews—our Lopezes and our Touros—filled their Store-houses with the merchandize of every clime; while in yonder Synagogue, they worshipped the God of Abraham. So eminent was the position of Newport in Colonial times, that antiquarians tell us that letters for New York from Europe, in order to reach that modest seashore town, are known to have been directed to "New York near Newport Rhode Island."

From the speech of Wm. E. Almy, Esq., of New London, Conn.<sup>2</sup>:

We have stood by the Jewish temple, that mystery of our childhood, which reminds us of the generosity of a Touro.

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<sup>1</sup> Page 206.

<sup>2</sup> Page 216.

From the lines of Henry T. Tuckerman, Esq.:<sup>1</sup>

"The Jews' lone shrine and grave none haunt to weep."

[B. III, pp. 59-73]

Extracts from "A Discourse, embracing the Civil and Religious History of Rhode Island, Delivered April 4, 1838, at the close of the Second Century from the first Settlement of the Island, by Arthur A. Ross, Pastor of the first Baptist Church in Newport, R. I."

[Not copied, except for following:]

About this time, 1763, and long after, flourished the distinguished families of Lopez, Rivera, Pollock, Levi, Hart.<sup>2</sup>

[B. II, pp. 196-206]

From "Early Recollections of New Port, R. I., from the year 1793 to 1811, by George C. Channing; New Port, R. I., 1868." (Chapter XVI, pp. 198-203, headed "Jews and their Synagogue.")

[B. II, pp. 47-53; B. V, pp. 77-85]

From "History of Rhode Island and New Port in the Past, by Rev. Edward Peterson; New York, 1853." Items taken from pp. 81, 82, 86, 89, 101, 179-182.

[B. V, pp. 104-15]

#### Sites of former residences of Jews.

Some of the houses still standing.

[Already copied. Same as MS. No. 302, pp. 212-214, with exception of the two following items at the conclusion:]

North side of Parade

near the Newport Bank Some of the family of Lopez. Joseph Lopez. (See Channing, "Recollections of Newport.")

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<sup>1</sup> Page 216.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. N. H. Gould from whose book I copy the above adds by way of note, "Cohen, Isaac, Eliezer, Jacobs, James &ca." (For "James" probably "Judah"—J. J. L.)

## South Side of Parade

Bank Building of the } Moses Seixas Cashier of the Bank of  
 Bank of Rhode Island } Rhode Island. (See Channing, *supra*.)

Picture of former residence of Moses Seixas: Simple, frame house of 3 stories: square in shape (built by Moses Levy).<sup>1</sup>

[This house was subsequently the residence of Commodore Perry.]

[B. III, pp. 47-51]

From "Newport Illustrated in a Series of Pen & Pencil Sketches, by George C. Mason." C. E. Hammett, Jr., Publisher. Newport, R. I.

On<sup>2</sup> the South side of Washington Square, a few doors from Thames Street stands the house where Commodore Perry resided after the battle of Lake Erie. It is a large square building erected before the revolution by a Mr. Levy, a Jew, and contains a wide hall, fine large rooms, and is elaborately finished within. A view of it is given at the head of this chapter. The house is at present owned and occupied by Mrs. Perry, widow of the Commodore [Matthew C. Perry].

[B. III, p. 73]

From "Oldport Days" by Thomas Wentworth Higginson; Boston, James R. Osgood and Company, 1873. Copyrighted. Chapter "Oldport Wharves":

It is like visiting the houses at Pompeii to enter the strange little black warehouses which cover some of our smaller wharves. They are so old and so small, it seems as if some race of pygmies must have built them. Though they are two or three stories high with steep gambrel-roofs, and heavily timbered, their rooms are yet so low that a man six feet high can hardly stand upright beneath the great crossbeams. There is a row of these structures, for instance, described on a map of 1762 as "the old building on Lopez' Wharf," and to these another century has probably brought very little change. Lopez was a Portuguese Jew who came to this place, with several hundred others, after the Lisbon earthquake of 1755. He is said to have owned eighty

<sup>1</sup> [MS. 302, p. 214.]

<sup>2</sup> Page 28.



square-rigged vessels in this port from which not one such craft now sails. His little counting-room is in the second story of the building; its wall-timbers are of oak, and are still sound; the few remaining planks are grained to resemble rosewood and mahogany; the fragments of wall-paper are of English make. In the cross-beam just above your head, are the pigeon-holes once devoted to different vessels, whose names are still recorded above them on faded paper,—“Ship Cleopatra,” “Brig Juno,” and the like. Many of these vessels measured less than two hundred tons, and it seems as if their owner had built his ships to match the size of his counting-room.<sup>1</sup>

Nothing further in this book relating to the Hebrews except a fine Heliotype illustration of the “Jewish Cemetery”, at page 114.

[B. III, pp. 102-03]

#### Jews in Leicester, Massachusetts.

From the *Worcester Magazine & Historical Journal* printed in Worcester, Mass., June 1826. [Not copied as this material appears in Leon Huhner, “Jews of New England,” *Publications*, No. 11.]

[B. III, pp. 85-88]

Copy of a Certificate of *Kashrut* \* of 40 kegs of Beef, &ca., shipped from Newport to Surinam, the original in the Portuguese language.

The above appears to be a draft of the genuine Certificate sent to Surinam. It has no signature and is folded in the form of a letter and addressed to “Mr Jacob Rod<sup>s</sup> Rivera Mercht New Port. p<sup>r</sup> Capt.”

#### Translation of the Portuguese Certificate.

I undersigned certify that the 40 kegs of beef and two of geese pickled, that are shipped by Mr. David Lopez on the board of the brigantine called *Hannah*, Capt. Willm. Howland, from this port for Surinam, marked over the covers with the mark stamped *Kosher* \* M. B. and inside with four pieces of tape with the mark

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<sup>1</sup> Page 40.

*Kosher* \* on each cover, are Casser and that any Jew may without the least scruple eat of them; as they are prepared according to our holy law, and that this is true I sign this with my hand in Newport Rhode Island on the 23<sup>d</sup> of Elul of the year 5547 in the Holy Congregation Jeshuat Israel. [See MS. No. 184, p. 185.]

[E. II, pp. 132-33]

Moses Lopez. In 1806 Mr. Moses Lopez published a Calendar, showing the dates of the festivals and fasts for 54 years. It proved to be a useful book. . . .

[B. II, pp. 65-66]

A Lunar Calendar of the Festivals and other Days in the Year, observed by the Israelites, 1805-1859, by Moses Lopez.

[B. V, p. 116]

#### Visit of a former resident.

Mr. Gould told me that a very old lady 30 years ago visited the Synagogue and sat down in the same seat as she said she had many a time occupied in former days and devoutly read her prayers. Mr. Gould in addition to the above refers to the visit of this lady again in his letter of Janry 7<sup>th</sup>, 1873, and alluding to the attachment and veneration of the Hebrews who once resided in Newport to the Synagogue & Cemetery writes thus:

Some 30 years since a lady then about 80 years old came here from Savannah, Georgia, whose mother was of the Hart family. She said that to near the end of the lives of those who emigrated with her family, the hope was kept alive that they would be able to return to this town to close life and to be buried, and that such was the affection for the place, inhabitants and for the Synagogue and its associations that even the furniture and books taken with them from here were esteemed as more sacred than any acquired in their new home. She has long since passed away, therefore I may perhaps be pardoned for relating the following illustrative anecdote. As she was about to return from the Cemetery to the Hotel to prepare for her start homeward, she inquired of my father if she might take a little of the soil of the Cemetery, that

upon her return to her home she could sprinkle it upon the graves of her parents and her family. She was of course allowed to do so and it made an impression upon my mind not to be obliterated, as while doing it she wept bitterly.

[B. III, pp. 93-95]

Summer residence of Mr. Moses Lazarus in Bellevue Avenue in Newport, R. I., photographed by J. A. Williams. This building was erected in 1870-71. [It is a] large square 3-story building; with piazza running around first story; and spacious grounds around it.

[B. III, p. 78]

The *Newport Mercury*. Fred. A. Pratt, Editor and Proprietor. Newport, Saturday, August 24, 1872.

The Rev. J. J. Lyons, minister of the Shearith Israel Synagogue, West 19th street, New York, is at present in this city for the purpose of procuring facts relating to the Jewish history of Newport, as the founders of his church were former residents of this city. He is aided in his researches by Nathan H. Gould, Esq., who is undoubtedly more fully posted in these matters, than any other of our citizens.

[B. II, p. 1]

ITEMS RELATING TO JEWS IN PHILADELPHIA.

Extracts from "The Republican Court, or American Society in the Days of Washington," by Rufus Wilmot Griswold. New York, 1855. [Gives names of David Franks and Samson Levy as subscribers to the first Philadelphia Dancing Assembly in 1748, and contains among the 85 names those of Mrs. Franks, Mrs. Marks, Miss Rebecca Franks and Miss Fanny Marks.]

[Extracts from a letter of Miss Rebecca Franks to her sister Abigail, written in 1783, in which she criticizes New York society of that period. See Max J. Kohler, "Rebecca Franks"; also *Publications*, No. 11, p. 184.]

[Comment of Rev. Mr. Lyons on Miss Franks and her sisters, giving names of their respective husbands. See I. Solomons, *Publications*, No. 18, p. 213.]

[Part taken by David Franks in a discussion of Christianity at a dinner given by Mr. Jefferson. See *Publications*, No. 2, p. 93.]

[B. I, Nos. 14-17]

[*The Sunday Dispatch*, Philadelphia, published by Everett & Hincken, May 17th, 24th and 31st, 1874, contains "A History of Philadelphia", in which chapters CCCLXXIII and CCCLXXIV deal with "The Jews in Philadelphia between 1775 and 1800." See H. S. Morais, "The Jews of Philadelphia"; H. P. Rosenbach, "The Jews of Philadelphia."]

[B. I, No. 51]

[Letter of Major General Charles Lee to Miss Rebecca Franks, dated Philadelphia, Dec. 20, 1778, and second letter from same to same, dated Jan. 28, 1779. Copied from

"Memoirs of the Life of Major General Lee", London, 1792, pp. 427, 431.]

[B. I, Nos. 1 & 2]

Sketch of Miss Franks. Copied from "Alexander Graydon's Memoir of His Own Time. Edited by John Stockton Littell, Philadelphia, 1846," p. 322.

[B. I, No. 32]

Among the papers of the late Mr. Isaac Gomez was found the following marked on the back:

List of Moneys Gethered for Build\* the Seynagogue in Philadelphia.

Further down in another handwriting thought to be [that] of Isaac Gomez:

Letters which I have thought proper to keep, August 18, 1830.

List of monies received by M<sup>r</sup> Phillips for Offerings & Donations for Bilding of the Singogue. Subscribers names in Philadelphia. [1782].

Isaac Moses	£22.10. 0
Hayman Levy	12.10. 0
Haym Solomon	37.10. 0
Jacob Myers	6. 0. 0
Abm Levy	10. 0. 0
Solomon M. Cohen	10
Benj <sup>m</sup> Seixas	7.10. 0
Gershon Seix <sup>s</sup> :	11. 5. 0
Jonas Phillips	10. 0. 0
Michael Gratz	10. 0. 0
Solomon Mar'che	6. 0. 0
Mordy Sheftal	3. 0. 0
Isaac Abraham	3. 0. 0
Jacob Hart	3. 0. 0
Cushman Polock	7.10. 0
Jacob Mord <sup>y</sup>	9. 0. 0
Myer M Cohen	5. 0. 0
Simon Nathan	10. 0. 0
Benjamin S [Judah]	3. 0. 0

Isaac Mos Senr	£1.11. 8
Asher Myers	2.10. 0
Eliezer Levy	3.15. 0
Isaac Da Costa	3. 0. 0
Henry Marks	3. 0. 0
Barnard Gratz	10. 0. 0
Mord <sup>y</sup> Levy	3. 0. 0
Solomon Bush	6. 0. 0
Moses Nathan	6. 0. 0
Israel Jacobs	3. 0. 0
Lyon Nathans	1.11. 0
Abm Sasportas	6. 0. 0
Moses Myers	23.10. 0
Benj <sup>n</sup> Nunes     £3. 0. 0	4.14. 0
Jacob Levy	1.15. 0
Sam <sup>11</sup> De Lucena	1.13. 0
Ezekiel Levy	4.10. 0
Bernard Mo's	24.17. 6
Myer Myers	3. 0. 0
Joseph Nathans	6.15. 0
Jacob Sol Cohen	0. 8. 0
Mordy Moses	4. 0. 0
Philip Moses	22. 5. 6
Moses Sexies	3.15. 0
Iseah Isaack <sup>s</sup>	18.15. 0
Jacob Cohen	1. 5. 0
Fineas Abraham	1.10. 0
Philip Rusel	2. 5. 0
Joseph Abendanon	0. 7. 6
Isaac Judah	1. 2. 6
Moses Gomez	3.16.10
Moses A Myers	0. 9. 6
Joseph A Myers	0.12. 0
Moses Seixas Senr	3. 0. 0
Lopez & Revera Family	62.12. 6
Joseph Simons	25.15. 0
Henriques	0. 5. 0
Lyon Moses	3. 5. 0
Sam <sup>1</sup> Myers	3. 0. 0
Joseph Jacobs	2. 7. 6
Michal Hart	0. 7. 6
Lazarus Barnet	5. 5. 0

(On the reverse of the paper is as follows: J. J. L.)

Note of the Gentlemen who Contributed Largely

First Subscription Donation

Haym Solomons	£304. 0. 0
Lopez & Riveras family	62.12. 6
Isaac Moses	112.16. 6
Hayman Levy	80. 0. 0

[See Abraham S. W. Rosenbach, "The Synagogue Mikve Israel," Philadelphia, 1909, pp. 11-12.]

[B. V, pp. 256-59]

Item from *The Sunday Dispatch* of Philadelphia, giving detailed description of Cherry Street Synagogue, Philadelphia.

[B. I, No. 51a]

Summary of a Memoir of the Rev. Emanuel Nunes Carvalho furnished by his nephew, Mr. Soln. N. Carvalho, June 13, 1875.

The subject of this notice was born in London, Nov. 13<sup>th</sup>, 1771. He was the second son of Mr. Solomon Nunes Carvalho of that city, whose limited means prevented him from giving his son more than a plain education. He was possessed however, of a refined taste for literature, and applied himself diligently after leaving school to the acquirement of oriental and modern languages. At the early age of twenty years he married a Miss Sarah Moriera, who survived him, and by whom he had no children. In 1798 he was solicited by his friends to become a candidate for the vacant situation of Minister of the Portuguese Congregation "Nidhe Israel" in Barbados, W. I. which at that time was very large. He was duly elected through the medium of the Sephardim Synagogue of London to fill the office and embarked for that Island in the following year. Previous to his leaving England he had identified himself with a democratic party favoring the American party, favoring the American principles of government and which nearly involved him in serious troubles. Mr. Carvalho continued his ministerial duties for nearly seven years, when in consequence of the failure of his own, and also his wife's health, he was obliged to leave a Congregation whose regard and affection were mutual. They left Barbados for New York and arrived in that city in 1806 where as Professor of Oriental and Modern languages and Belles Lettres, he instructed private pupils among whom were many Christian divines. About this time he accepted the invitation to assume the ministry of the K. K. Beth Elohim of

Charleston, So. Ca., where he officiated several years and until he was permanently elected Pastor of the K. K. Mikve Israel of Philadelphia. During his ministry in that city he published his "Key to the Hebrew Grammar". Mr. Carvalho had devoted a large portion of his leisure hours to the compilation of a Hebrew, Chaldaic and English Lexicon. This elaborate work was completed for immediate publication and had been submitted to some of his literary friends for examination a few weeks previous to his sudden demise. After this melancholy occurrence the manuscript could not be found. Diligent search was made for it at the various publishing houses in New York and elsewhere, but no trace of this valuable work of a life-time could be discovered. Mr. Carvalho was the first Minister who introduced English sermons in the Synagogue of the U. S.<sup>1</sup> His domestic habits were unobtrusive and retired, and his conversation was frequently distinguished by a delightful fervour of language and sentiment. . . . He died March 20, 1817.

[B. I, No. 65]

Rev. Emanuel Nunes Carvalho before he came to the United States resided at the island of Barbadoes where he was minister of the Congregation *Mikveh Israel* \* <sup>2</sup> Portuguese *Minhag* \*. He was born in London. After having served the aforesaid Congregation for several years he was elected minister of *K. K. Beth Elohim* \* in Charleston. During the war of 1812 his brother David resided with him, serving with the volunteers who were actively engaged in preparing defenses about Charleston. (The above is extracted from Obituary of D<sup>d</sup>. Carvalho, *The Occident*, Vol. XVII, [No. 48].)

1815 Oct 29. The Rev. E. N. Carvalho was engaged as Hazan <sup>3</sup> Salary \$800 per annum, with a dwelling house, and the usual perquisites. Nothing was said about the term of service. (From Review of Controversy between Cong<sup>a</sup> Mikve Israel, Phila., and Rev. I. Leeser).

[B. I, No. 62]

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<sup>1</sup> [This statement is erroneous as English sermons were delivered at an earlier date by Rev. Gershom M. Seixas and probably by other Jewish ministers also.]

<sup>2</sup> Should be *Nidhe Israel*.\* J. J. L.

<sup>3</sup> This was in Philadelphia, *K. K. Mikve Israel*.\*



1870. From Mr. N. Phillips. The original name of the family of "Florance" was "Coo" or "Kuh." The original name of the family of "Gratz" was "Solomons". They arrived in Philadelphia in 1754. [This is an error. The original name of the Gratz family was Bluch, although one branch was named Graetzer. See Brann, *Etwas von der schlesischen Landgemeinde*, in *Festschrift zum 70. Geburtstag Jakob Guttmanns*; Sulzberger Collection of Gratz Letters belonging to the American Jewish Historical Society; *Publications*, No. 25, pp. xiii, 113-114.]

[B. V, p. 285]

ITEMS RELATING TO HAYM SALOMON.

Bill of exchange of Haym Salomon in favor of Jacob Cohen, drawn on and accepted by Edmund Randolph of Richmond, Virginia, March 17, 1782. Same as MS. No. 169, p. 227.

[B. I, No. 11]

1784. Release to Haym Salomon from Wm. Rhinelander. Copy of an old parchment document endorsed on the back William Rhinelander

to Haym Solomons } Release

in possession of Eugene J. Jackson, great-grandson of Haym Solomons, better known as Haym Salomon.

Deed dated Feb. 19, 1784, of house and lot of ground, 22 Wall Street.

[B. I, No. 12]

Haym Salomon's Claim.

From a printed Copy in possession of Eugene J. Jackson, grandson of Haym M. Salomon; copied by me, 1872, May 23d.

38th Congress }  
1st Session }

Senate

{ Rep. Com.  
No. 93

*In the Senate of the United States  
June 24, 1864.—Ordered to be printed.*

Mr. Wilkinson made the following  
Report

(to accompany bill S. No. 331.)

[B. I, No. 10]

Data relating to Haym Salomon, copied from the *Saturday Courier* of Philadelphia, published by Andrew M'Makin, Vol. XVII, No. 34, Whole No. 866, October 30, 1847.

The article is as follows:

FOR THE PHILADELPHIA SATURDAY COURIER

FINANCIERS OF THE REVOLUTION.

NUMBER ONE.

Ancient Families of Philadelphia and New York. . . . Private  
Facts of the Revolution.

We have recently perused with much interest a manuscript containing an account of citizens distinguished in former days, branches of whose families are now residents in our principal cities, from which we purpose to extract occasionally, subjoining such additions and corrections as are warranted. To-day we give some particulars connected with the family of Mr. Haym M. Salomon, lately a merchant in New York. Mr. S. was formerly distinguished as a leading man in the movement of early politicians and author of several articles on the Constitutional Principles of American legislation. He was also one of the last united "*General Republican Committee*," which counted among its men the Hon. Henry Meigs, M. C., Hon. Jonathan Thompson, Hon. Stephen Allen, Hon. Peter Stagg, Col. Todd, Hon. Peter Sharp, M. C., &ca &ca.

The father of Mr. Salomon was a native of Poland. The intimate associate of the distinguished Generals Pulaski and Kosciusko, he married in Philadelphia, a lady, the sister of the brave Col. Franks, and settled there, where he died some months after the peace of 1783, being much younger than his two other compatriots. He left no relatives in this country, competent to take charge of his estate and affairs, and thereby prevented that grateful remembrance, by suitable rewards and indemnities for his great sacrifices which might then have been expected from his contemporaries in the holy work of the revolution.

The nature of the aid rendered to the great cause by this patriotic individual and which may be gathered from the posthumous writing of Mr. Madison and contemporary notices of recent writers, as well as unpublished manuscripts in the department of state, will force an acknowledgment that the services rendered to the civil government, or the Governors of a country are paramount in efficiency and importance to those made in favor of the military, when it is recollected that the civil power, as Governors of a people, enact the very laws by which the regulations of the army are sustained and the movement of the forces

directed. But if there be no civil Governors, or they become dispersed by consequence of the absence of the means of their subsistence at the capital of the nation, then anarchy ensues and the military become brigands. Haym Salomon was the principal source of supply to the members of the revolutionary Government of that day, after every other application had been made in vain, and members of Congress "were reduced to extremities," to use the words of Mr. Madison. Thus it was he who enabled them to debate with mental tranquility those important resolves, respecting the great land domain of Virginia, to make what is now several great Western States, as well as several other important domestic acts in the immortal periods of their secret sessions.

In Mr. M.'s letters to Virginia in 1781, he writes: "My wants are so urgent that it is impossible to suppress them. The case of my brethren are equally alarming."

In another place, in the printed work, he says: "*The kindness of our friend in Front Street*, (Mr. Salomon) is a *fund* that will preserve me from extremities, but I never resort to it (the fund) without great mortification, as *he obstinately rejects all recompense*. To necessitous delegates he gratuitously spares from his private stock."

In a letter to his colleague, Edmund Randolph, 1781, he says: "I have for some time past been a pensioner on the favor of Haym Salomon."

The magnitude of these great favors granted to many of these distressed worthies who are seen in the national pictures in the rotunda of the Capitol may be judged by what distinguished contemporaries of that time record. One writes to a colleague in '81-'82: "We have tried to raise funds to relieve ourselves, by offers of depositing the best names in Virginia, but it is in vain. My brethren are in like distress."

Their relief from any other quarter than from Mr. Salomon, was so rare, that the only instance where it occurred is put down in Mr. Madison's Journal. He says—"Sept. '82. I succeeded in getting the sum of £50 from Mr. Cohen, by depositing the obligation of Mr. Randolph, payable for it at 60 days".

There is another autographic acknowledgment extant, signed by Jones, Randolph and Madison, the delegation from Virginia, that succeeded that of Jefferson, it being a law of Virginia, that their members of Congress should not be re-eligible till after a term of three years. At this moment, and in this place, we are also able to correct a great error in Ingersolls' History of the war, in

which he writes the early public life of James Madison, saying that he did not enter Congress till 1784, whereas we have before us Mr. M.'s own autograph to the present Mr. Solomon, in which he says: "I entered the revolutionary Congress in 1780, when I became acquainted with your father in Philadelphia, and ceased to be a member in 1783."<sup>1</sup>

The evidence on the document above alluded to, contrasts the great disinterestedness of Mr. S. in his intercourse with the members of the Government when compared to that of others in the same period. When he was called on to advance the entire pay of these three members for the ensuing year, they had in writing allotted that Madison should get £50 less than the other two, but Mr. S., seeing in this young statesman, then only 29 years old, those great latent talents accompanied by a diffident amiability, for which he became so remarkable to his death, a subsequent period of sixty years, presented him from his own private purse the £50, and thus equalized the pay of the whole delegation. It further appears that Mr. Salomon's munificent friendship continued to their successors, in the midst of whose term of service Mr. S. died.

And we insert here from 7th volume of Claypole, additional instances of the devotion of other portion of Mr. Salomon's family. That when a detachment of American troops were passing through Baltimore in great distress for supplies, to join the American army in Virginia, the father-in-law of Mr. Salomon [Jb. Hart], then a merchant of Baltimore, headed a subscription of the merchants and raised 2000 Guineas for their relief, *without security*, and by the act of November 1782, a unanimous vote of thanks was given by Congress for their patriotism.

We shall add but one or two more evidences out of the many, of the extreme distress to which members and officers of the Government were reduced, and we are thus able to appreciate more fully the disinterestedness of the patriotic friendship of the father of Mr. Salomon.

In the life of Governor Morris (a member of Congress in 1780), edited by our own distinguished American Historian, *Doctor Sparks*, there is a letter written by Mr. Morris to a friend in public office in New York, in which he says that "the person who did loan cash to a member to relieve his distress in that day, was in no expectation of ever getting repaid."

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<sup>1</sup> [The original letter of Haym M. Salomon to James Madison to which the above is a reply is the property of Mr. Leon Huhner.]

In a manuscript letter, yet extant in the Treasury Department, from the Superintendent, respecting their matters in 1781-82, he says:—“*The Treasury was so much in arrears to the servants in the public offices, that many of them could not without payment perform their duties, but must have gone to jail for debts they had contracted to enable them to live.*”

By opening the sealed book of Mr. Madison, bought by our government, and also looking up a document presented to a Committee of the last Congress from the Bank of North America, the first and only Bank chartered by the Revolutionary Congress, we are enlightened as to the true state of several facts, so long obscure, regarding the merchants and prominent men of those days. It appears that there have been repeatedly printed in the newspapers of modern date lists of the merchants who subscribed to make up army supplies in 1780, who were represented to have given their names and promises without any security. Now it is seen by the same journal of Mr. M. that they had a contingent security of best sterling exchange for £150,000 being greater than the subscription.

The Bank document shows also the relative proportion of the account of Mr. Salomon and forty other principal merchants, who commenced with the opening of the Banks. Their accounts up to the period of his death, when his account closed, occupied in all fifteen pages of the large ledger, and his *single* account occupied fifteen pages, double columns of the same ledger. The amount of his one account was also as large as their entire account in the aggregate.

His balances at the various times of settlement in his Bank book, shew specie balances of 15,000 to 50,000 Dollars at each period. In those days not one man in a hundred of the traders could command over one-half of one thousand and the large majority not one hundred.

The amount charged by the Bank to his account as paid to the financier of the Revolution was more than \$200,000, while Mr. Morris' own account during the same period, has but a deposit of less than \$10,000, and which is seen was received on the very day from Haym Salomon as it is charged to him—and funds were also given when necessity required, to *Jefferson, Willson, Ross, Duane, Reed*, and others of the Congress of the Declaration, and to their successors, who were afterwards so much distinguished for their patriotism and talents as statesmen in the second and subsequent sessions of those bodies, *viz.* Madison, Mercer, Arthur

Lee, Joseph Jones, Harrison Mifflin, Rittenhouse, Pendleton, Randolph and others.

Mr. Salomon was also the confidential friend of that ardent adherent of the American cause, the *Chevalier de la Luzern*, the French Ambassador, as well also to the two Consul Generals *Marbois* and *De La Forest*. These latter, in recent days, were Ministers in the Cabinet of Napoleon.

In the archives of the Intendancy of Cuba, in the time of the Revolution, there is a letter from Don Francisco Rendon to Don Diego Jose de Navarre, Governor General of Cuba, in which the former says: "I am entirely indebted to the practical kindness of Mr. Salomon to support my credit with any degree of reputation, and without it I certainly could not have been able to render that protection and assistance to the subjects of his Most Catholic Majesty which is enforced on me by his royal Commands." This obligation lasted nearly two years, while his supplies were cut off from Europe. Don Francisco was the *sub rosa* ambassador of King Charles III of Spain.

That this was a most important incident in the patriotic devotion of Mr. Salomon, even to jeoparding the last cent in the cause of his adopted country, while his two countrymen and devoted friends were spilling their blood and manouevering the armies of liberty in America, may be judged from the facts gathered out of the manuscript revolutionary papers in the Department of State.

There is a letter from our Commissioner in Paris, dated December, 1777, in which it is seen that Louis XVI would not sign the treaty of alliance until sanctioned by his kinsman, Charles III of Spain.

The latter Prince, as a reward for the faithful services of Don Francisco in the Revolution appointed him, after the peace, to one of the most valuable intendancies in the Vice Royalty of New Mexico.

Mr. Salomon was sole negociator of all the war subsidies of France and Holland (20,000,000) on his own personal integrity, which were disposed of to the resident merchants in America, without any loss, at a credit of two or three months.

It was he who, when the people of Philadelphia were deprived of the use of any circulating medium by the act of withdrawal of continental money, and great distress existed, caused two thousand dollars in specie to be distributed among the poor of that capital.

All that portion, which was used in America of the 150,000,000 of Livres expended by King Louis in the expeditions by sea and land, the first year of alliance, passed through the hands of Mr. S. at the regular mercantile commissions, and which made for him so large a capital, the entire produce of which was invested in the *Revolutionary Cause*, its *Paper* and its *men*.

The list made and deposited at the Probate Office of the Certificates of Revolutionary indebtedness of which he was seized at the time of his death shew upwards of 350,000 Dollars, consisting of *War Office*, *Loan Office*, *Commissioner*, *Treasury* and *Continental* certificates, not one cent of which was ever received by the infant children, owing to circumstances for which they could not be accountable.

The mother of our Mr. Hyam M. Salomon was the daughter of *Moses B. Franks* who, with Jacob Franks, came to America from London long before the Revolution. They were grandsons of that *Aaron Franks*, the friend of George II, whom he accompanied to England from Hanover, and to whom he loaned the most valuable jewels of his crown at his coronation. Jacob was appointed the King's Government Agent for New York, and the Northern Colonies, long remembered for his piety and devotion to his sovereign. His son David was made King's Agent for the Colony of Pennsylvania and it was the daughter of this Franks that was married to Governor Hamilton of that Colony whose large estate on the Schuylkill is yet known as "the Woodlands."

A son of Jacob returned to England, where he died while a member of Parliament. One of the daughters of Jacob was the lady of the distinguished British General Delancy, of New York, whose landed estate on that Island exceeded that of Gen. Stuyvesant and for the loss of which, by refusing to join the Americans, he was on his return to England, rewarded by George III with the lucrative office of Aid-de-Camp to the King and Master of Ordnance, with a salary of 30,000 pounds sterling per annum. Another daughter was married to a nobleman who was knighted and appointed Governor of a province in India.

And his other son-in-law was an Admiral in the Navy prior to the Revolution.

The brave Col. Franks, the uncle of our Mr. S. who is mentioned in Revolutionary history, was Aid-de-Camp to two successive Commander in Chiefs of the American North-Western Army of the Revolution.



After the war, he was appointed Prothonotary of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, which office he held at the time of his death. His son was made a Judge of the Supreme Court of that State.

His only daughter was married to Mr. Huffnagle, one of the oldest and most respectable of the German importers,—two of whose sons are distinguished for their success in prosecuting discoveries in natural science, and the public duties with which they have been intrusted. General Keim, our late able representative in Congress, and now United States Marshal, is also connected with this branch of the Franks' family.

The only brother of our Mr. S.<sup>1</sup> was the able Cashier of the Branch of the United States Bank at New Orleans—in which office he died. It was he in 1807, when at Leghorn in Tuscany in company with our Commodore Stewart, had charge of a large amount of American property which were sequestered by the French Government, along with millions of Dollars belonging to other individuals, and who made such a spirited remonstrance, that the whole was delivered up. (See the Journals of the day). And for this very valuable service he never charged or received one cent.

A son of our Mr. H. M. S., is Col. D. Salomon, of Alabama who, like the Hon. Mr. Roscoe, merchant of Liverpool, author of *Lorenzo De Medici* and *Leo the 10th*, is distinguished by his connections with the leading public men of the day, and also for contributing some of the best written essays on the political economy of our Social and Legislative Systems to the contemporary periodicals and journals, as well as for his anonymous critical notices of the prominent literary productions of our times.

[For further data concerning Haym Salomon, see Herbert Baxter Adams, *Publications*, No. 3, pp. 5-19, and J. H. Hollander, No. 2, pp. 7-11.]

The newspaper, or rather part of a newspaper containing the above article was kindly loaned to me by the Col. David Salomon spoken of therein. J. J. L.

[B. V, pp. 85-101]

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<sup>1</sup> Ezekiel Salomon. J. J. L.

ITEMS RELATING TO JEWS IN SOUTH AMERICA AND THE  
WEST INDIES.

From *Harper's Monthly Magazine*, No. 250, March 1871.  
Article: An Examination of the Claims of Columbus. Second  
paper, page 530, Second Column.

Discussing the means of Columbus to converse with the  
natives the author speaks thus:

Christopher Columbus and certain others, all natives of European  
Countries arrive at the island of San Salvador, Cuba &ca. All,  
save one Israelite, who seems to have concentrated in his single  
erudite self all the linguistic lore of the party, having at command  
Hebrew, Chaldee, and Arabic, are restricted to the use of European  
languages.

[B. V, p. 250 B]

From "Life and Voyages of Christopher Columbus," by  
Washington Irving; Book IV, Chapter 3, headed "Discovery  
and Coasting of Cuba."

Columbus, having determined to dispatch two envoys to seek  
the neighboring monarch at his residence, the author says,

For this mission he chose two Spaniards, Rodrigo de Jerez and  
Luis de Torres; the latter a converted Jew, who knew Hebrew and  
Chaldaic and even something of Arabic; one or other of which  
languages, Columbus supposed might be known to this oriental  
pr[ince.] Two Indians were sent with them as guides &ca.  
Further in Chapter 4<sup>th</sup> headed "Further Coasting of Cuba:—The  
Israelite Luis de Torres, found his Hebrew, Chaldaic and Arabic  
of no avail and the Lucayan interpreter had to be the orator.

Columbus in the preface of his Journal speaks as a meritor-  
ious act of Ferdinand & Isabella thus:

Your Highnesses therefore after having expelled all the Jews from  
your kingdoms and territories, commanded me in the same month  
of January to proceed &ca.

[B. V, p. 250 B]

Notes from Lecture of Rev. Dr. Fischel on the Jews of America (taken by myself at the time).

Washington Irving says, "It was Friday the 3d of August, 1492, early in the morning that Columbus set sail." August 2, 1492 was Tishabeab.

Sugar cane planted in Brazils by Jews in 1584.

Luis de Torres, the first seaman in the first of Columbus' expeditions that put foot on American soil, was one of the "Christianos Nuevos," Converted Jews, called "Onseen." His brother Antonio de Torres commanded one of the vessels of that expedition.

[B. V, pp. 251-52]

The Original Lists of Persons of Quality: Emigrants; Religious Exiles; Political Rebels; and Others Who Went from Great Britain to the American Plantations, 1600-1700. From MSS. preserved in the State Paper Department of Her Majesty's Public Record Office, England. By John Camden Hotten. New York: J. W. Bouton.

[In this volume appear the names of a number of early Jewish settlers, particularly at Barbados, pp. 438, 439. See *Publications*, No. 1, p. 105; No. 5, pp. 103-117.]

[B. I, Nos. 54 and 55]

INCIDENTS IN THE LIFE OF MR. AARON SORIA,  
FURNISHED BY HIS SON MR. ISAAC SORIA,  
IN APRIL 1871.

My father, Aaron Soria, a naturalised citizen of the United States of America, arrived in the city of New-York about the year [1805?] after the St. Domingo Revolution. He was born in the city of Bordeaux, France, on the 22d day of February, 1762, and died in the city of New York on the 12th day of February, 1852, aged nearly 90 years.<sup>1</sup> His original family name was "De Soria," natives of Spain. During the Spanish revolution, the nobility were hunted and persecuted, therefore the family left out the

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<sup>1</sup> In Record Book: Died January 5th, 1852, 89 yrs., 10 mos., 18 dys., resident of New York nearly 50 years.

"De" and called themselves simply "Soria." My mother, whose maiden name was Rachel Mendez Hega was also born in Bordeaux, France, on the 25th day of December, 1781. She died in April<sup>1</sup> 1844 in the city of New York, aged 63 years.

They were married in Bordeaux, had two children born there, a daughter named Judith and a son named David. They emigrated to St. Domingo, taking their daughter with them and left their son with their relatives. My father joined his brother in St. Domingo who was a West Indian planter and they prosperously cultivated coffee, Sugar, &c., the products of that Island. My mother gave birth to *another* son at St. Domingo who was never named, owing to there being no opportunity of doing so. My father's and uncles' store, or depot for the Sale of their produce was in the city of St. Domingo Situated in the public Square; their plantation was several miles out of town. One day a certain negroe Slave named Pierre, whose master had given him permission to work out, requested permission to place his table for the Sale of Beer and Eatables on the side walk in front of his premises; my father consented on condition that his occupation would not prove a nuisance. One day a gang of Sailors stopped at this negroe's stand and partook of his Beer and eatables. After having eaten and drank they Commenced a quarrel with him. My father standing in his Store-door observed this and took the part of the negroe, compelling the men to pay for all they had partaken. Pierre was very thankful to my father for the good action he had done him.

Shortly after this the Revolution broke out in St. Domingo. My father remained on his plantation some distance from the City, until it was no longer prudent to remain there; they all left for the interior and were finally obliged to take refuge for their protection, Some 60 white persons, inside of a fort. They were attacked by negroe-forces and defended themselves the best way they could. Among the inmates of the fort was a friend of my father's who had received a wound in his left arm, which he carried in a sling. Being disabled he frequently used to play with their young babe, a child about 8 or 10 months old. Finally their provisions became short and the negroes being reinforced, those that were able resolved to make their escape the best way they could. They accordingly evacuated the fort one moonlight-night,

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<sup>1</sup> In Record Book: Died *Shabat Jethro* \* which was Febry 2d, 1839, 71 years.

taking different directions. The negroes soon found it out and pursued them. My father, mother and their two children hurried on as fast as they could run; coming to a stream of water they had to ford it. They could plainly hear the report of their enemies' guns at a short distance from them. They were compelled to lay their babe on the ground in order to safely cross the Stream, my father carrying his eldest child in his arms and leading my mother, the water being up to their necks. He intended to recross the Stream to recover their babe, but the negroes coming so suddenly on them, discharging their guns, he had no time to return, consequently they were compelled to abandon their babe and make their escape as fast as they could. They Succeeded in reaching a small Sea board town from whence they got on board a small craft, which conveyed them back to St. Domingo City. The negroes massacred the whites whenever an opportunity afforded; every white citizen therefore was compelled to take up arms in defence of the city. The blacks, who greatly outnumbered the white male population, had full possession of the mountains and all their passes, they were well armed and drilled and made frequent attacks by night on the city. My father placed his wife and child at a friends' house in the city for protection. He was ordered to the arsenal there to be equipped and was placed on guard to patrol the city. One very dark night he was hailed by a band which he mistook for his own comrades, but which proved to be negroes; he was taken prisoner and conveyed to their guardhouse in the mountains; all along the route the negroes abused him and called him a "white monkey." This was the common insult they applied to white citizens, telling him that by tomorrows' light he would no longer know the taste of bread, meaning they would kill him. They confined him in their guardhouse. I need not here describe the fear that took possession of my dear father for the protection of his wife and child as well as for his own life—About midnight the door of his prison was suddenly opened by a tall well made negro man dressed in full regimentals, with chapeau, plume, sword and epaulettes. This officer was the negro general Commander of the place who, on seeing his prisoner, walked up to him and exclaimed, "Why citizen Soria, how came you here? do you not know me?", at the same time extending his hand. My father who was much taken by surprise, answered him saying, "General, your face is familiar to me, but I can not recall your name." "Do you not remember *Pierre!* the man you gave permission to place his stand in front

of your warehouse in the city, and whom you protected from the insults of a party of Sailors? *I am the man* and I have never forgotten your kindness, I will serve you if I can, but never divulge that *I* liberated you, do not compromise me, when I next open your prison door and *raise my chapeau*, make your escape, fly down the mountains for your life." He accordingly placed his guards in such positions to enable his prisoner to escape which he lost no time in doing.

My Dear father used frequently to recur to this part of his life, telling his children never to omit doing a good action, whenever it was in their power, for, said he, I owe the saving of my life to the trifling favor I have done to this poor slave when in trouble. On reaching the city again my father was retaken by his own people, and after recounting that he had been taken prisoner and had made his escape, they conducted him to the arsenal, reëquipped and replaced him on guard. He, as soon as possible, went in search of his wife and child, whom he found safe at his friends' house; he then occupied himself as much as possible in trying to leave the Island, and succeeded in securing a passage on board a schooner bound for New York. When about ready to sail, a guard of white Soldiers came on board and pulled him from his hiding place, as no white citizen was allowed to leave the Island. They forced the female passengers to leave, but placed him under guard. This vessel was taken by an English cruiser, for England was then at war with France, and carried into New Providence. From thence my mother obtained passage to Charleston, S. C., where they were hospitably received and cared for by those warm-hearted and charitable citizens of that city. My father ultimately succeeded in getting away from St. Domingo; they had to hide him away among the cargo of coffee. He reached New York City and then occupied himself in search of his wife and child. Learning they were in Charleston, S. C., he went there and found they had just departed for St. Domingo. By this time the insurrection had been quelled. Three succeeding trips across the Atlantic Ocean did they make in search of each other before meeting. My father on his arrival at St. Domingo after quiet had been restored, went in search of his lost child. He fell in with his wounded friend, who informed him, that he saw the babe lying quietly on the ground near the edge of the stream uninjured, sucking his thumb. He examined and recognised the child's features by the light of the moon, saying to himself, "they have all been massacred but this dear babe; I will take it up in my arm,

if it remains quiet—but should it cry, it may betray me and the negroes will find me out, I will then have to abandon it.” Fortunately the child remained quiet. He conveyed it to a neighbouring plantation whose only occupant was then an old negroe woman, into whose care he left the child, telling her to take good care of it, informing her of its parents’ name &c., promising her a good reward for her trouble. My father succeeded in finding this woman, who informed him, that she had forgotten the child’s name, but they called him “Petit Blanc,” “Little White One,” as he was the only white child then on the Island, that he took sick from the itch, the then prevailing disease among the blacks and died. She said they buried the child but Father could not see the burial certificate. My dear mother was always of opinion that her child was living but ignorant of his name &ca.

From Hazard’s “San Domingo,” pp. 133 and 147:

“Toussaint L’ouverture of San Domingo fame, originally a slave descended from a royal chief in Africa. His early life was passed as a slave upon a plantation of the Count de Noe.”

“Mr. Soria, probably, was among the 500 French prisoners for whom 500 gibbets were built by the Negro Chief Dessalines, and who were hung at break of day, after the news had reached him that the French had put to death 500 negro prisoners captured by them in a recent engagement in 1803.”

[B. I. No. 5]

From *The Jewish Messenger*, New York, September 18th, 1874. Discovery of an ancient tombstone with a Phœnician inscription at Parahyba, Brazil. Taken from the illustrated journal, *O novo Mondo* of Rio Janeiro, of April 23d, with a facsimile by Ladisla Netto, about a Phœnician inscription found by a slave upon the estates of Signor Costa at Parahyba, Brazil. Prof. Schlottman of Halle has recently given a Hebrew transcription of the inscription, with a German translation, and expresses doubts as to its genuineness.

If the whole inscription, as seems by some linguistical symptoms, is not a forgery of an ingenious and learned epigrapher—as Schlottman considers it, in spite of some reasons to the contrary, stated by himself—then we have before us a monu-

ment of the reign of Hiram II (551-530, B. C. E.) erected in 530, B. C. E., and it would prove that the Phoenicians, at the circumnavigation of Africa, were carried by the equinoctial storms to Brazil, 2000 years before the discovery of America.

[B. I, No. 56]

Items from "A Chronological Table, forming a summary of Jewish History from the Flood to the present day," appended to "A Jewish Calendar," by E. H. Lindo; London, 1838. [Events previous to 1641 not copied.]

1641 R. Isaac Aboab and R. Raphael Moses de Aguilar, with about 600 Jews went to the Brazils, in consequence of the Dutch Government granting toleration in that Colony. Many new Christians residing there, returned to the religion of their ancestors.

1650 The Cultivation of the Sugar cane first introduced into Martinique by Benjamin Da Costa (Grégoire, *Cultes Religieuses*, Tom. 3).

1653 The Jews settle in Surinam.

1654 On the Portuguese obtaining possession of the Brazils, the Jews were ordered to quit, but every indulgence was granted them; they were allowed to take away their property, and 16 vessels were furnished them by Government to convey them wherever they chose, furnishing them passports and safeguards.

1655 R. Menasseh Ben Israel came to England with other Jews at the invitation of Mr. Secretary Thurloe (Petition of Thomas Violet to Parliament) when he presented petitions to Cromwell and the Parliament in behalf of his brethren.

1655 A Council was held at Whitehall (the 4<sup>th</sup> Dec.) to consider the proposals of Menasseh Ben Israel to admit the Hebrew nation into England. The Council met again on the 7<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> (Dec.) on which day the Jews were admitted into England. Now were the Jews admitted. (Evelyn's "Memoirs," Vol. I. p. 288.)

1656 The First Portuguese Synagogue in King Street, Dukes' Place. The burial ground at Mile End, where the Spanish and Portuguese Jews' Hospital now stands taken on a lease for 999 years.



- 1659 The Dutch West India Company granted a charter to David Nassy, and other Portuguese Jews for the colonization of the Island of Cayenne. (*Essai Historique sur la Colonie de Surinam*, p. 113.)
- 1664 Cayenne taken by the French; the Dutch inhabitants and Jews obliged to quit; the latter went to Surinam.
- 1665 The British Government at Surinam, by proclamation, dated Aug. 17, confirmed all former privileges of the Jews; guaranteed to them the full enjoyment and free exercise of their religion, rites and customs, and added that any Summons issued against them on their Sabbath or Holidays should be null and void; that, except on urgent occasions they should not be called on to do any public duties on those days; that civil cases not exceeding the value of 10,000 lbs. of sugar should be decided by their elders, the magistrates being bound to execute the Sentence, and that they might bequeath their property according to their own law of inheritance. Ten acres of land were also given to them for the erection of a Synagogue and such other buildings as the Congregation might require.
- To induce foreign Jews to settle there, it was also declared that Jews coming from any country should be considered as British born subjects. For which they were bound to obey all the decrees of the King of England provided they did not infringe on their privileges. (*Essai Historique sur la Colonie de Surinam*.)
- 1667 Surinam being taken by the Dutch, the privileges of the Jews confirmed to them and they were to be entitled to all the rights of Dutch born subjects.
- 1670 Surinam being finally ceded to the Dutch, many Jews quitted with the English; they settled at Jamaica and the other West India Islands.
- 1673 Jews indicted in London for meeting for public worship; on the 11<sup>th</sup> February the King in Council ordered "that the Attorney General stop all proceedings and that they receive no further trouble in this behalf."
- 1683 The Jews ordered to quit the French Colonies.
- 1685 37 Jewish merchants arrested on the Exchange for not attending any church. The king in Council again stopped all proceedings against them.
- 1685 All Jews found in the French Colonies, ordered to be seized and their properties confiscated.

- 1690 The petition of the Council of Jamaica to order the Jews to quit the Island refused by William III.
- 1701 Haham Nieto (R. D<sup>a</sup> Nieto) appointed Chief Rabbi of the Portuguese Congregation, London.
- 1723 By act of Parliament the words "on the faith of a Christian" to be omitted whenever any of his Majesty's subjects professing the Jewish religion shall present themselves to take the oath of abjuration.
- 1740 An act of Parliament passed, "that those Jews who had already resided in the American Colonies, or who have served as Mariners during the war two years in British Ships, are become natural born subjects of Great Britain without taking the Sacrament." [See H. S. Q. Henriques, "The Jews and the English Law," pp. 240, 309. See also Simon W. Rosendale, *Publications*, No. 1, pp. 93-98; J. H. Hollander, *ibid.*, No. 5, pp. 113-117; and Leon Huhner, *ibid.*, No. 13, pp. 1-6.]
- 1749 M. J. Pereira, Interpreter at the Royal Library, Paris, on the 11<sup>th</sup> of June, explained his method of instructing the Deaf and Dumb, since successfully adopted by l'Abbé l'Espée.
- 1750 The thanks of government, and two silver cups, presented to Moses Naar and Gabriel de la Fatte for their zeal for suppressing a revolt of the negroes in Surinam. (*Essai Historique sur la Colonie de Surinam*, p. 123.)
- 1772 An act passed that Jews, on a residence of seven years in any of the Colonies shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of British Subjects.
- 1778 Colonel David [S.] Franks confidential Aid to General Washington. [Should be to General Arnold.]
- 1791 All distinctions between Jews and other citizens abolished in France.
- 1795 The Batavian Republic gave the Jews the same rights as other Citizens. [See Sigmund Seeligmann, *Publications*, No. 22, p. 32.]
- 1796 Levy Myers, Esq., Member of the Legislature of South Carolina.
- 1806 Napoleon Sanhedrim convoked May 30<sup>th</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, July 26<sup>th</sup>.
- 1807 Ezekiel Hart, Esq., returned a member of the House of Assembly, in Canada; the French party to gain an additional partizan, moved his exclusion on account of his religion, which was carried. The House having been dissolved by the Governor, he was again returned by the new House.

- 1810 Moses Myers, Esq., Member of the Legislature of South Carolina.
- 1810 Henry Jacobs, [Jacob Henry] Esq. being returned a member of the Legislature of North Carolina, a motion was made to refuse him on account of his religion. It was unanimously rejected.
- 1813 Mordecai M. Noah, Esq., Consul at Tunis for the United States of America.
- 1814 Civil liberty given and every restriction removed from the Jews in Denmark.
- 1819 M. M. Noah, Esq., elected Sheriff of the City of New York.
- 1825 Nathan Levy, Esq., appointed American Consul to the Island of St. Thomas.
- 1827 Mordecai Myers, Esq., member of the Legislature of Georgia.
- 1830 Moses Myers, Esq., Collector of the Customs at Norfolk, Virginia.
- 1831 Jews admitted to the freedom of the City of London.
- 1831 Alexander Bravo and Phillip Lucas, Esq<sup>s</sup>, appointed Magistrates and Assistant Judges in Jamaica.
- 1832 Jacob de Pass and Abraham Isaacs, Esq<sup>s</sup>, appointed Magistrates and Assistant Judges in Jamaica.
- 1832 Samuel Judah, Esq., Member of the Legislature of Indiana.
- 1832 M. M. Noah, Esq., appointed Surveyor of the Port of New York.
- 1832 Chapman Levy, Esq., member of the Senate of South Carolina.
- 1835 D. Salomons, Esq., elected Sheriff of London & Middlesex.
- 1836 Col. M. I. Cohen, appointed Aide-de-Camp to the Governor of Maryland.
- 1836 Lieutenant Uriah Levy made a Captain in the U. S. Navy.
- 1837 Moses Montefiore, Esq., elected Sheriff of London & Middlesex.
- 1837 J. J. Sanguinete and D. Hart, Esq<sup>s</sup>, elected members of the House of Assembly, Jamaica.
- 1837 Sheriff Montefiore knighted by Her Majesty Queen Victoria.
- 1838 Alexander Bravo, Esq., made a member of Her Majesty's Council, Jamaica.
- 1838 The hereditary Title of Baron, recognized by the British Government, to Lionel, Eldest son of the late Baron N. M. de Rothschild.

[B. I, No. 80]

Extracts from a book entitled "Francisco Moya or the Inquisition as it was in South America" by B. Vecuna Mackenna.

Translated from the Spanish with the author's permission by James W. Duffy, M. D., member of the Royal College of Surgeons, and of the University of Chile &ca. London, Henry Sotheman & Co., 136 Strand, 1869. [See *Publications*, No. 4, p. 151; also No. 12, p. 33.]

[B. I, No. 60]

From *The Jewish Messenger* published New York, January 22d, 1875—1875, extract copied from "The Jewish Calendar. A Commemoration of the departed. From the German of Dr. Zunz." 1639, January 23, Eleven Portuguese Jews were burnt at Lima, among them, the physician Fr. Meld. Da Silva after having been in prison for 13 years.

[B. I, No. 61]

"Inquisition in America," from Taylor's translation of Basnage's "History of the Jews", p. 695, xxix.

[B. I, No. 86]

### The Israelites in Brazil.

The *Anglo-Brazilian Times*, published at Rio Janeiro, of a late mail date has the following:

Under the title the "Israelite Union of Brazil" the Jews of Rio Janeiro have established an association whose first president is Mr. Frederick M. Brandon, and whose specific object is to provide for the relief of whatever Israelites may be found in necessity within its sphere of action. . . . The Israelite Union is now asking of the Brazilian government the necessary license to have a separate and decent ground for the burial of their dead, according to their own rites, a trifling favor which we feel convinced will not be denied to them by a government of this country of civil and religious tolerance, and wherein the high civic qualities of the Jewish people are known and respected.

[B. I, No. 70]

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS RELATING TO JEWS IN NORTH AMERICA.

A Hebrew martyr of Mexico. Account of the finding and exhibition of the body of Pedro Rodriguez, a Portuguese jeweller put to death by torture by the Inquisition in Mexico in 1595. The body was found in a vault of the Convent de St. Domingo, Mexico City, about 1865 in an almost perfect state of preservation. Account copied from the *New York Sun*, April 11, 1873, page 3d, 4th Col.

[Note by J. J. L.:]

The bodies of Pedro Rodriguez and his child were on exhibition in this city [New York] some few years since. . . . I was specially invited and when I called was then first informed that they were *Jewish* Martyrs, who had been tortured and murdered by the Inquisition in Mexico, because of their religion. I was also shown a Spanish manuscript, apparently very old, which I had no time to examine but which I was told contained the history of the trial and condemnation of Rodriguez, which was found in a tin box in the same places with the bodies.

[B. I, No. 31]

First Hebrew Grammar published in this country, by Judah Monis, 1735.

I saw two copies of the above book at Nashs' bookstore, 120 Nassau Street. On the fly leaf of one was written as follows: "The original Mst. of this is in the Theological Library in Boston."—See Thomas' History of Printing, xi. 330 for some account of the printer. . . .

[B. I, No. 77]

In a collection of printed sermons (Portuguese) preached in London, there is one by Haham Isaac Nieto in the year 5498=1738. In the Dedicado, among the "Gabayim passados" is the

name of Daniel Mendes Seixas; and among the "Parnassim Presentes", Benjamin Mendes Pacheco.

[B. V, p. 314]

Oath of allegiance & Loyalty by Jews to George Second in 1740. This is a copy furnished by Mr. Uriah Hendricks the original of which he borrowed to show me, from whom I did not learn.

[This oath is the same as that given in MS. No. 224, pp. 224-26. See Simon W. Rosendale, *Publications*, No. 1, p. 92; J. H. Hollander, *Publications*, No. 5, p. 103; Leon Huhner, *Publications*, No. 13, p. 1, where names of New York signers are given.]

[B. I, No. 30]

Account of Captain Manuel of the British Army in America, 1762, from Alexander Graydon's "Memoir of His Own Time," edited by John Stockton Littell, Philadelphia, 1846, p. 320. [There is nothing to indicate whether he was a Jew.]

[B. I, No. 33]

### Moses Mendelssohn

on the likelihood of an established religion in the  
United States.

See Mendelssohn's "Jerusalem," Vol. 2, p. 172, foot-note: We regret to hear also the Congress of the United States (1783) harp on the old string, by talking of an established religion.

[B. I, No. 72]

Specimen of minute penmanship of the Lord's Prayer, done by L. Levy in 1803 and presented by him to Abraham Jacobs.

[B. I, No. 88]

1815, April 21. Passport of Levy I. Cohen, afterward known as Lewis I. Cohen, copied from the original document in possession of his son, Solomon L. Cohen. His wife, Sophia Cohen, *née* Andrade, was born in England but became a naturalized American citizen in 1845.

[B. I, No. 18]

## MRS. BARRETT OF CHARLESTON, S. C.

*Immense Longevity.*—Died in Charleston, 9th instant, MRS. STARR BARRETT, after having fully completed *one hundred and twenty years* of an active and various life. This venerable lady was born in the year 1699 of the Christian æra, about a year before the death of Charles 2d, King of Spain—to which country her family had emigrated at an early period of her life. She was born in one of the Barbary States; which could not be ascertained by the writer, but it is supposed under the Empire of Morocco. . . .

Mrs. Barrett possessed a constitution truly Arabian—she was seldom or never sick and rathered withered away like some majestic tree which gradually loses its moisture, but which the tempest has always spared. A variety of circumstances formed her a great traveller and she had visited, with no unobservant eye, the four quarters of the globe. She spoke English, Spanish, Italian, & French, with great fluency; was perfectly acquainted with the mixed Morisco or Frank, as it is spoken by the traders along the southern shore of the Mediterranean; was mistress of the Hebrew, and wrote, spoke, and translated the pure Arabic with ease and elegance. Her memory was very tenacious of impressions made in early youth—but for the last half century she was apt to forget occurrences from one day to another. She recollected the public joy in Spain upon the important discovery of the Philippine Islands, by the Spanish navigators—as well as the battle of Almanza, which was fought on the frontiers of the Kingdom of Valencia, when the army of Philip Vth, King of Spain, obtained a complete victory over the Imperialists under the Arch Duke Charles. Both these events occurred in the year 1707, when the subject of this notice was only eight years of age. . . . Mrs. Barrett was of an easy and cheerful disposition, even after her blindness, which continued the last thirty years of her life. Latterly, extreme debility had reduced her to second infancy. She ate everything within the pale of the Hebrew rule (being a Jewess, and strict in her religious duties;) drank and slept well, and was remarkably cleanly and particular about her person. After dwelling thirty or forty years in London, she came to this country in 1780 then in the 80th year of her age, and lived in this city for the last forty years.—*Charleston Patriot.*

(Instead of "Starr", it is likely her name was "Esther"—J. J. L.)

[B. I, No. 69]

## SOLOMON JACOBS OF RICHMOND, VIRGINIA.

Copy of inscription on his tombstone in the Beth Haim in Richmond, Virginia, of K. K. Beth Shalome:

In memory of Solomon Jacobs who died on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of Hesvan 5588 [November 2, 1827], aged 52 years. During a hopeless and painful illness, which he bore with great patience and unshaken fortitude he manifested in no ordinary degree his perfect reliance on the mercy of God and his entire conviction of the truth of the Mosaic dispensation. He passed a life of activity, usefulness and unblemished integrity. Called to office of distinction in the municipality of the city and other corporate institutions, he discharged his duty with firmness and ability. Fond as a husband, indulgent as a father, kind as a master, hospitable and benevolent as a man, steady and disinterested as a friend.<sup>1</sup>

[B. I, No. 64]

Extracts from a "Discourse delivered at the Consecration of the Synagogue of the Congregation Mikva Israel in the City of Savannah, Georgia, on Friday the 10<sup>th</sup> of Ab 5580, corresponding with 21<sup>st</sup> of July 1820, by Jacob De La Motta, M. D. Savannah. Printed by Russel & Eden. 1820."

The discourse was printed upon request of the Building Committee: Abraham De Lyon, President; David Leon; Moses Sheftall and Sheftall Sheftall.

[See Leon Huhner, *Publications*, No. 10, pp. 65-95; No. 17, pp. 89-108.]

[B. I, No. 63]

Dr. Joshua I. Cohen: From the *National Medical Journal*; Edited by Charles C. Cox, M. D., LL. D., Washington, D. C. Vol. I. No. 4. January 1871:

One of the most noble impulses of humanity is that which renders the tribute of affection and honor to those who have passed beyond

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<sup>1</sup> [See Samuel Oppenheim, *Publications*, No. 19, pp. 61, 68, 69, and also Albert M. Friedenberg, *ibid.*, p. 90.]



the mysterious shadows of the tomb. It is the instinct which commands the living present to bind itself with the vast unknown of the future. It speaks in the floral tributes upon the infant's grave and in the towering monuments which men erect to their honored fellows with whom they have held no personal and endearing relation. When a life of marked character and power, but of unostentatious worth and usefulness has been prolonged to the limit of man's appointed time, though it may have been steadily shedding happy influences over the community, there are necessarily few left to do merited honor to its quiet dignity and grandeur. Their tribute, however, is that of reverential honor warmed by personal friendship and affection. Such has been the offering which has gone forth from the hearts of both the humble and the exalted of Baltimore's oldest citizens upon hearing that Dr. Joshua I. Cohen had passed from among them. The honor which such a life has strewn around itself by the lesson it has taught, is beyond any it can derive from the words of eulogy. Of dignified person, with manners of courtly grace, Dr. Cohen won the attachment of all brought into association with him. Proud of his inheritance as a son of Israel, nothing could tempt him from loyalty to his faith, and from early youth to the end, his life illustrated in unblemished purity, the teaching and piety of the Law given on Sinai. Yet, no narrow boundary of creed closed around his heart, shutting out the claims and brotherhood of humanity; and among the most distinguished ecclesiastics of Christian sects are those who now lament the loss of a beloved friend. Upon one occasion, when one, whom he highly regarded, was in the heat of youth, pouring forth expressions of anger and vengeance, he whose memory we now honor, said with mild, yet firm reproving tones: "Though not a Christian, I cannot approve such unchristian sentiments in you." Harmonizing with his nature, his first professional employment was in a municipal official appointment, sending him among poverty stricken classes of the city. Gradually, however, he withdrew himself from the active pursuits of his profession, and gave his intellectual energies to the attractions of natural science. For some time he filled the chair of geology and mineralogy in the University of Maryland, and in all of his mature life he held relation and communion with the scientific world. Mingling the reverence of filial, with the ties of fraternal affection, the latter years of his life were devoted to assisting in the labors and lightening the cares of his brother, the late Jacob I. Cohen, President of the Baltimore Fire Insurance

Company. After his brother's decease, Dr. Cohen was called by the Directory to supply his place, but the great grief of the separation left a shadow upon his life which never lifted, and it is a consolation to know that but for the fear of leaving some usefulness undone, some duty incomplete, he was willing to go. On Friday November 4th at a quarter to five P. M. in his 70th year, in the first hours of his earthly Sabbath, he quietly passed to that of eternal rest.

The above is from the pen of an eminent Surgeon of the Navy, and constitutes a feeling tribute to a friend of both the Author and Editor. In all the qualities which adorn human nature Dr. Cohen was excelled by none. He was an able, judicious physician; modest and conscientious. After a life of labor in the profession and kindred sciences, he has gone to rest universally lamented. *Editor Nat. Med. Journal.*

[B. V, pp. 307-10]

Sketch of the family of Hart of Canada furnished by Arthur Wellington Hart, 1873. [Letter of Author annexed but not copied.]

About the year 1779 General Haldimand was commissioned as Governor General of Canada, and on his staff as a Commissary General was an Israelite, Aaron Hart, who had been an officer in the German Legion, a body of Soldiers then in the pay of Great Britain who came to Canada with the new Governor. After a lapse of time he retired from the service and married a Miss Dorothea Judah of Portsmouth, England, who with members of her family had emigrated to Canada. By her he had 8 children (4 sons and 4 daughters). The third son, Benjamin Hart, a merchant at Three Rivers, married Harriot Judith, the only daughter of Ephraim Hart of New York, then a merchant in the full tide of prosperity. This marriage was a most happy and blissful one; their progeny to-day are scattered over the world. The fulfillment of prophecy as regards the scattering! One resides in New York, one in New Jersey, one in Missouri, another in Louisiana, a daughter in California. The third son Theodore and his sister Constance in Canada, and

another sister residing in Heidelberg in Germany. As Benjamin Hart of Three Rivers and afterwards of Montreal always identified himself with the Congregation of Shearith Israel,<sup>1</sup> it is necessary to allude to his family in order to connect the history of Ephraim Hart with that of this Congregation.

There emigrated some century ago a family of Noah, Manos or Manuel was the grandfather of the present generation. He had a sister Frances, a woman of pure morals, true benevolence and a worthy daughter of Israel. She married Ephraim Hart of this city, at that time a man of moderate fortune and one universally respected for his love of our holy religion, and his generous support of the Congregation. In Oliver Street burial ground the tomb of his eldest son Asher is still to be seen. Another who was distinguished for his professional attainment died in this city and was well known for his fund of humor, overflowing spirits that no adversity could dampen and a generosity which to a great extent always kept him impoverished. I allude to Dr. Joel Hart. He lies interred in the burial ground in Eleventh Street where the remains of his father also rest. After the death of Ephraim Hart, his widow took up her final earthly home at Montreal with her devoted daughter who soothed her evening of life till the close, when full of years she peacefully yielded her dying breath in that city and lays with her kind in the family burial ground. Ephraim Hart was always a great speculator in property and among his possessions at one time were the titles of some of the most valuable properties in this city. He owned his own Town House in Broad Street, then the quiet abode of the merchant princes in New York. His country seat, being about 11<sup>th</sup> Street, consisting of some acres which he sold to the late John Jacob Astor for some \$10,000, a property worth today some millions!! The object of this work is to give some historical sketch of those who by blood-connexion or marriage, here or elsewhere were connected with the Congregation Shearith Israel from its

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<sup>1</sup> In New York.

earliest date. To do this we cannot confine ourselves to the lives of those that lived and died among us. It is our duty which we fulfil with pride to point out those lovely religious traits of character to be found in the members or children of members who constituted the Congregation. Ephraim Hart, be it said to his credit, was a consistent and faithful worshipper of his Congregation, his wife was imbued with similar sentiments and love of religion. These were faithfully impressed into the youthful mind of their only dutiful and loving daughter and Harriot Judith as a mother fulfilled the hopes of her worthy and good parents. Her union with a Canadian gentleman of the same name and yet no relation, was blessed with every earthly gift of wealth, health and domestic happiness. They were further blessed with a large family, some 16 children of whom, as narrated before, 8 survived. Benjamin Hart was distinguished for his philanthropy and unbounded hospitality. In building his mansion in Montreal, he dedicated to the service of God a large room in the upper story, where his family congregated on Sabbath Evenings and mornings, and during the Holy days his portals were opened to the rich and poor, the resident or traveller, and as each year rolled by the Holy days' services were celebrated by Doctor De La Motta of Charleston or Myer Levy, Esq., now a venerable and aged member of this Congregation. The establishment of religious service in a room set apart in a man's house for the benefit of whoever chose to call, points to a moral of the present day when religious reform and freedom opens the Jewish pulpit for the occupancy of a Christian clergyman. The Jew neglecting his own faith yet beckoning to his Christian mentor to explain "the doubtful truths" which seize his mind; alas, to what are we drifting? Is religion unshaken in trust or creed for 6000 years to be set aside for the free religious sentiment which pervades the Jewish pulpit of the present day? We have strolled off to moralize, but our history of this worthy family must close. Benjamin Hart was committed to the silent dust in

February, 1855, and his remains lie interred in the family plot at Long Island of Col. A. Wellington Hart, his eldest surviving son residing in New York, and a member of the third generation of worshippers with this Synagogue. Harriot Judith lies beside her mother and her son, Aaron Phillip Hart, a distinguished Barrister of the Montreal Bar, who died at the early age of 32 years, in the family plot in Montreal. Another member of the family of Benjamin Hart was connected with this Congregation. Frances, his eldest daughter, married Raphael Schoyer; they were members of this Congregation. Mrs. Schoyer was a most accomplished musician and linguist, the charm of the social circle and one who was held in love and respect by all who knew her. She died in New York, and with her infant son lies buried in the Beth Haim in Twenty-first Street. We have alluded to the religious character of Mr. Benjamin Hart and we can point to his charities and veneration of his holy religion. To him principally are the Israelites of Montreal indebted for the beautiful Synagogue they possess. His heart was in the enterprise. He headed the subscription list with a munificent donation and Sepharim &ca, and was honored by his coreligionists by being elected President for a long series of years. His declining age admonished him that the climate of Canada was too severe. He left Montreal and closed his valuable life in this city in his 76<sup>th</sup> year.

"The long-remembered beggar was his guest,  
Whose beard descending swept his aged breast,

. . . . .

Careless their merits or their faults to scan,  
His pity gave, ere charity began.

. . . . .

But in his duty prompt at every call  
He watched and wept, he prayed and felt for all."

[B. I, No. 82]

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS RELATING TO JEWS IN WARS OF  
UNITED STATES AND CORRESPONDENCE WITH  
WASHINGTON.

Papers furnished by Mr. I. B. Nones. Note by Mr. Nones to Mr. Lyons enclosing reminiscences, dated New York, 29 Decr./69.

Mr. Benjamin Nones' conduct whilst serving under General Pulaski during the Revolution certified by his Lieutenant in Command. [This certificate is in French and is dated, Charlestown, South Carolina, 1797.]

Translation of the Certificate mentioned above:

Year 1779

Charleston

South Carolina

Verdier, First Lieutenant of the Cavalry of Pulaski's Legion.

By a decree of Congress the Legion under the Command of Brigadier General Pulaski received orders to march into the Province of South Carolina, then besieged by the British Army. The Infantry of said Legion took the ordinary route and the Cavalry the upper one, for the facility of foraging. General Pulaski started immediately with his suite and two officers, who accompanied him. He arrived in the month of May of the same year before the town of Charleston which he found in a state of siege. The British Army under the command of General Prevot were in the neighborhood of ten miles off the said place; the inhabitants of the town received him as their true defender. The French of all Classes offered their services to Pulaski and expressed their desires to serve under his command as volunteers, and at the suite of his Legion. General Pulaski accepted their offers and I was elected their Captain. It is with justice that I render an account of the conduct of those who have most distinguished themselves. I take advantage of the occasion and with much pleasure in my quality of Captain of the Volunteers attached to the suite of Pulaski's Legion, to certify that Mr. Benjamin Nones

has served as volunteer in the said company during the siege of Charleston during the Campaign of the same year and the Siege of Savannah, and his behaviour in all the actions has been marked with all the bravery and courage which a military must shew for the defense of the liberty of his Country, and which act gained in his favor the esteem of General Pulaski, as well as that of all the officers who witnessed his conduct. For which reason I have delivered to him the present Certificate, as an eye witness of his good conduct, which I make it duty to certify with truth and Satisfaction.

Done at Charleston, Province of South Carolina, this fifteenth day of December, 1779.

VERDIER.

Captain of the Volunteers.

[See also Isaac Markens, "The Hebrews in America," pp. 126-127.]

Republished from the *N. Y. Dispatch* in the *Hebrew Leader*, Friday, Decbr. 19, 1873.

Joseph B. Nones, Esq.—We take pleasure in copying from the *N. Y. Dispatch* the following highly honorable record of our worthy aged friend, whose name graces the head of this article:

This venerable brother, though now in his seventy-eighth year, has all the elasticity and energy of manhood's early prime, and is as much at home in the society of the ladies as the youngest beau that pays his enthusiastic devotions at the shrine of beauty. Brother Nones was made a Mason in St. John's Lodge, of this city, in Feb., 1818, and gradually advanced to the high grade of Rose Croix, and from the beginning to this time, he has been in heart and action a most consistent brother to our beautiful Order. He entered the navy in the year 1812 as a midshipman in the corvette *John Adams*; in 1814 was with Henry Clay, Adams, and Gallatin on the Ghent mission that made peace with England and the United States, and was with Commodore Decatur in the subjugation of Tunis, Algiers, and Tripoli (known as the Algerian war), in 1815, in the United States frigate *Guerrière*, the flag ship of the large United States squadron on that important mission, and was with Commodore Decatur on the 15th of June, 1815, when off Cape De Gatt, in Spain, in the memorable action on that day, when the

*Guerrière*, 44 guns, single-handed, engaged and captured the Algerine line-of-battle ship, *Mesora*, alias *Mahomet*, of 64 guns. Brother Nones was badly wounded in that action, receiving a very severe sabre cut across his head, a ball through his left foot, and three buck-shot in his right leg, which he carries to this day. After his gallant experience in the naval service of his country, he resigned his commission in 1823, fifty years ago! and is still with us enjoying robust health and the just reward of an approving conscience in all the deeds of public and private station.

[B. I, No. 67]

DAVID N. CARDOZO.

Mr. David N. Cardozo now over 80 years of age fought in the American Revolution; he led the forlorn hope in the storming of Savannah and was wounded. He is spoken of in Appletons' Encyclopedia. (Communicated by J. C. Levy, Esqr., June 27<sup>th</sup>, 1871.)

[See Leon Huhner, *Publications*, No. 12, pp. 50, 57, and *ibid.*, No. 17, p. 106.]

[B. I, No. 91]

Copied from an old Schoolbook, without title page, the property of Miss Ella Phillips: Address of the Hebrew Congregation in Newport, Rhode Island, to President Washington, August 17, 1790.

(The following note we copy from the same book <sup>1</sup> and regret the author's name is wanting.—J. J. L.)

We are induced to insert this address to General Washington not only to exhibit a glorious proof of the religious liberty enjoyed in America by the scatter'd tribes, but also as a fine specimen of the scriptural style of writing. In the opinion of some good judges, it is equal, if not superior in dignity of expression, to any address ever presented to that illustrious personage.

[B. II, pp. 86-88; B. V, pp. 156-58]

Reply of General Washington to the Address of the Hebrew Congregation in Newport, Rhode Island.

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<sup>1</sup> Page 308.



[As to the two items above, see Lewis Abraham, *Publications*, No. 3, pp. 87-96.]

[B. II, pp. 89-91; B. V, pp. 178-80]

The address of the Hebrew Congregations in the cities of Philadelphia, New York, Charleston<sup>1</sup> and Richmond to President Washington, and his reply thereto. [See *Publications*, No. 3, pp. 92-94.]

[B. V, pp. 181-86]

From "Vindiciae Judaeorum" by Jacob C. Levy of Savannah, Georgia. Manuscript copied with permission in the autumn of 1871.

One<sup>2</sup> of the effects of this social persecution is to make the Israelite more tenacious & exact in his various duties, and is rewarded when he is enabled by his energy and industry to attain wealth and distinction, and it must be added, in his devotion to the soil that protects him, and uniformly shedding his blood on the side of freedom. This was so in the long war of the Revolution that separated us from England there were none opposed to the cause of independence, all were on the side of the struggling state. The late Senator Butler in the Senate of the United States in a printed letter declared that Salvador was the first man who displayed the American flag in South Carolina in the upper districts where he possessed large grants of land.

It<sup>3</sup> was a saying of old Commodore Ridgely in Baltimore to Commodore Decatur with an oath: "The only good thing in you is your Jewish blood."

[B. V, pp. 315-16]

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<sup>1</sup> [The original address of the Charleston Congregation to President Washington is in the possession of the American Jewish Historical Society, having been presented by the Misses Mordecai of Philadelphia. See Leon Huhner, *Publications*, No. 12, pp. 59<sup>(a)</sup>-61<sup>(a)</sup>, where this address is given in full. For original Washington material in the Lyons Collection, see MSS. Nos. 51, 170, 174, 175, 176, pp. 217-22.]

<sup>2</sup> Page 65.

<sup>3</sup> Page 160.

Obituary notice of Henry Etting, from a contemporary newspaper, February, 1876:

HENRY ETTING, UNITED STATES NAVY.

Henry Etting, Paymaster, United States Navy, died in Philadelphia on the 15th inst. He was a native of Maryland and was appointed to the service from Pennsylvania. His entry took place on the 1st of January, 1818, and his latest commission bears date 3d of March, 1871. Mr. Etting had a very long term of service and was a very faithful and meritorious officer.

[B. I, No. 87]

## EXCERPTS FROM SCRAP BOOKS.

[There are three scrap books which contain clippings from newspapers and periodicals as well as programmes, reports, etc., collected by the Rev. Mr. Lyons. Among the clippings are a large number of newspaper biographies of Mordecai M. Noah and tributes to his memory. These will not be reproduced here as sketches of Noah have appeared in our *Publications* and elsewhere. The following are the items of special Jewish interest contained in these scrap books:]

Report of Committee appointed by the Hebra Hased Ve Amet to confer with the Committee of Hebra Gamelut Hased, to reduce to a proper system the discharge of the necessary duties at the funerals of members. The report states that "owing to the distance of the Beth A Chaim from the populous parts of the city, recourse is frequently had to carriages to convey those who attend (as well as the mourners) at a heavy expense, which in many cases falls heavily upon the survivors of the deceased whose circumstances do not justify the same." The report is undated, but is signed by Isaac B. Seixas who was Hazan of Congregation Shearith Israel from 1828 to 1839 during which period the burial ground in use was located at 21st Street.

### Education.

Rev. Ellis Lyons proposes to establish in the City of Richmond a daily School for young Ladies and Gentlemen.

The course of instruction includes Writing, Arithmetic, Geography, Astronomy, Grammar, Composition, Philosophy, History, Mythology, and all the branches of a liberal and Classical Education acquired in the best Seminaries.

## Terms for Day Scholars

In the First	Department	\$10 per quarter
"	Second	8
"	Third	6
"	Preparatory	4
"	Primary	3
"	Hebrew and each additional language	5
Stationery, with the use of Globes		1
Fuel for the season		1

Young Ladies and Gentlemen not attending the daily School, desirous of acquiring a knowledge of the Hebrew Language, can obtain instruction for a charge of not less than \$10 per quarter.

The English department will be under the superintendence of a Lady and Gentleman, who are eminently qualified for the situation by their acknowledged excellence as Grammatical Scholars.

No pupil can be entered for a less term than a year, and a quarter notice to be given previous to removal. Ten weeks to the quarter. Vacation during the months of August and September.

Parents who are desirous to secure for their children the advantages proffered by this institution, are respectfully invited to enter them before the 15th of December, at the residence of the Principal, No. 16 Main Street. Those residing at a distance who feel an interest in the establishment, and desire further information, are invited to correspond with the Principal.

If a sufficient number of pupils be entered to authorise a commencement, the School will be opened during the second week in January, in spacious and well ventilated apartments.

Children of indigent parents will be taught free of charge. Richmond, Nov. 30th, 1847.

From the *Sunday Times*, December 12, 1847, original article on "Interesting Discovery of the Ruins of Solomon's Temple. Journey of Mr. James Nathan, a Jew, through the Holy Land—his discovery of ruins of Solomon's Temple, on ruins of Herod's built on Mt. Moriah." Destruction of wood-work of Temple by fire in time of Titus, leaving columns, chambers, subterranean passages, etc. Probability that Mosque of Omar on site of Temple is supported by columns of Temple. Entrance of Mr. Nathan into cavern, a description of same. Mr. Catherwood's description of Mosque El Aska—his opinion that sub-structure is of Roman origin, *i. e.*, is that of Temple of Herod. The Mohammedan Mosques on Mt. Moriah occupy same site as Solomon's Temple. Subterranean pillars, etc., not work of Arabs. Therefore ruins formed foundation of Herod's Temple, built on ruins of Temple of Solomon. [For further particulars concerning this, see "Love Letters of Margaret Fuller, 1845-1846," New York, 1903, and Joseph Lebowich on same subject in *The Menorah*, Vol. 36, No. 2.]

From one of the New York papers of January 25th, 1848.

"Home," by Uriah H. Judah, Esq.

"I have friends whom I love, and would leave with regret,  
But the love of my *home*, Oh; it is tenderer yet,  
There a sister reposes, unconscious in death,  
'Twas there she first drew, there yielded her breath."

Home! 'tis the sacred depot of all that man holds dear in existence; the blessed spot where the unalloyed affections of the heart take root, spring up and flourish. Home! 'tis the beautiful abode of that unquenchable love which gives a soothing balm to the manifest ills of life, and binds up the broken tendrils of the heart. Home! 'tis the only fitting place for the way-worn and weary traveller to rest in tranquillity from the fatigues of journey, for the employment of that placid repose which so long has been denied. Home! 'tis where innocence and childhood, untainted by crime, and uncontaminated with the follies of the world, can luxuriate in the consciousness of chastity and goodness. Home!

'tis where the love of the devoted wife is hallowed by a faithful discharge of those martial duties which enchain the husband of her choice in the sacred bond of unity. Home! 'tis that endeared bright speck on the heart of man, wherever he may roam. Home! 'tis where FREEDOM unfurls her glorious banner, that justice may summons her votaries to the fold. Home! 'tis that land of equal rights, where all can repair to the sanctuary of the ever-living God, and worship the Creator of the world in accordance with the dictates of conscience. Home! 'tis where WOMAN is treated as the equal of man, and enjoys the like rights and immunities in society. Home! its delights are no where so cheering as in that happy land where military despotism cannot neutralize law and overawe the government. On Columbia's soil the exile can rear himself a *home*, where gathering around his festive board his little children and his wife he can, in peace and plenty smoke his pipe in peace and none dare molest him.

In that country where an impartial administration of the laws is sustained, and exact and equal justice meted out to all—to the man of unbounded possessions as well as to him of tattered rags—the wanderer will ever find inducement to make it his permanent abode. *Here*, in this glorious land of the free and the brave, the "stars and stripes" float upon every sea to guide the persecuted to *our* shores in safety—*here* where the chime of the Sabbath bell vibrates upon his ear, none will intercept his path as he bends his steps to the hallowed house of prayer—Happy Country—Blessed Home!

From the *Sunday Atlas*, May 14, 1848.

[Account of the funeral of Mr. Isaacs—his burial in Trinity Cemetery, New York. Deceased was a Jew, son of Abraham Isaacs, Shamas of Shearith Israel Congregation, and had married a Gentile.]

From the New York *Sunday Dispatch*, July 30th, 1848:

Ralph Depas.

The funeral of Ralph Depas, a young Hebrew of New Orleans, who fought bravely in Mexico, took place in New Orleans on the 13th, with great ceremony. The civic authorities, the military and the firemen, turned out, and escorted him to the Jewish burial ground, near the Firemen's Cemetery. The scene was imposing

and solemn, and the manner in which the whole of the arrangements of the funeral were conducted, evinced the heartfelt desire of all engaged therein to render them befitting the soldier and the patriot. Mr. Depas was an Israelite, and the ritual of the ancient people to whose sect he belonged was chaunted over his remains.

From the New York Sunday *Atlas*, October 9th, 1848:

Governor Johnston of Pennsylvania and the Israelites—  
Letters from J. L. Moss and Alfred T. Jones to Gov. Johnston in regard to his exclusion of the Israelites in his Thanksgiving Day Proclamation. Gov. Johnston's explanation of this. [See *Publications*, No. 13, p. 22.]

From Noah's *Times*, October 22<sup>d</sup>, 1848. Mentions Mr. Cresson, American consul at Jerusalem and a recent convert to Judaism. [See *Publications*, No. 8, pp. 81-83.]

A MEETING  
OF THE  
Israelites of New-York

will be held at the Broadway House for the purpose of expressing their sympathy with the noble and high-minded Benefactor of their Religious Brethren in Germany, the now persecuted and imprisoned, DR. JORDAN, of Kurhessen, and to make provision for the support of his unfortunate wife and children,

On Saturday the 28th of October, [1848]

At half-past 7 o'clock, P. M.

corner of Broadway & Grand St.

to which you are respectfully invited to attend.

Sketch of Emanuel B. Hart from the Sunday *Atlas*, November 5th, 1848.

Printed circular of Congregation Shearith Israel, announcing special services at Crosby Street Synagogue on November 23d, 1848, for procuring funds for building a synagogue at Jerusalem and inviting all New York congregations to co-operate.

From the *New York Tribune*, November 25th, 1848. Mentions that the Sultan of Turkey had given permission for Jews to build a synagogue at Jerusalem and that appeals had been made for collection of funds for that purpose in America, etc. Announcement made that M. M. Noah would deliver an address at the Hebrew Synagogue in Crosby Street on Thanksgiving Day to aid in the erection of the Temple at Jerusalem. This same issue of the *Tribune* gives Noah's address in full upon that occasion.

From the *New York Sun*, January 27th, 1849:

### CHURCHES IN NEW YORK

We give below a list of the churches in this city and Brooklyn, with the names of their pastors, so far as we have been able to ascertain them.

#### HEBREW

Shearith Israel, 60 Crosby, Rev. Mr. Lyons—7th day Pesach 1729  
 B'nai Jeshurun, 119 Elm, Rev. Mr. Leo—June 30, 1827  
 Anshe Chesed, 38 Henry, Rev. Mr. Hecht—May 1834  
 Shaarey Zedek, White cor. Centre—1840  
 Shaaray Shomayim, Rev. Mr. Danziger—Sept. 10, 1841  
 Rodeph Sholom, 156 Attorney, Rev. Mr. Heitner—Feb. 3, 1843  
 Beth Israel, Centre near Pearl, Rev. Mr. Salinger—1843  
 B'nai Israel, 154 Pearl, Rev. Mr. Noot—May 20, 1847  
 Shaaray Tefila, 112 Wooster, Rev. Mr. Isaacs—June 25, 1847  
 Temple of the Emanuel, 56 Chrystie, Rev. Mr. Cohen—April 14, 1848

(The minister of Shaarey Zedek is Rev. Samuelson. Twenty-two years ago there was but one Synagogue in New York, *viz.*, Shearith Israel, a Portuguese Congregation. The 1st German Congregation was opened in 5587, *viz.*, B'nai Jeshurun in Elm Street. In August 1839 when the compiler arrived in this city, the number of Synagogues was then only three. The compiler assisted at the consecration of No. 3; 5; 6; 9 and 10;



also at the consecration of the first Shool in Pearl Street of No. 4. Invited at No. 8 but prevented from attending.—J. J. L.)

Invitation to attend the consecration of Congregation House of Israel in Philadelphia on March 28th, 1849, signed by Rev. G. Pape, Joseph M. Asch and others.

From the New York *Sun*, April 11th, 1849.

Death of Lieut. Col. Alfred Jacobs.—

We regret to announce the death of Lieut. Col. Jacobs, late of the 119th Regiment of New York State Militia, (under old organization). The Colonel departed this life on the 29th of February, on board the steamboat *Globe*, on his way from Galveston to New Orleans, of bilious dysentery. Jacobs was a young and very promising officer, and a worthy young man. It was his intention to re-enter the militia service of this city under its present organization, but death has vetoed all his military designs.

The Colonel left a large family, and a numerous circle of friends, who one and all deeply lament his loss—particularly his brother, who has been distracted ever since the melancholy news arrived.—*U. S. Naval & Military Gazette*.

From the New York *Sun*, August 9th, 1849.

In the ranks of the Hungarian army, fighting for their liberty, says the *Jewish Chronicle*, is a Jewish officer of high merit, M. Danneberg, who had served under the Americans in the Mexican Wars, but no sooner did he hear of the struggle against oppression in his native country (Hungary) than he proceeded from New York to Bremen, and thence to the scene of war, where he is now earning golden laurels.

From the New York *Tribune*, November 21st, 1849, on the discovery by a Jew of a mode of communication with the dumb; examination by Board of Directors of children in Deaf and Dumb Institute on 50th Street, Dr. Raphall among those present.

From the *Atlas*, January 20th, 1850.

Mr. Andrew A. Jones, a gentleman, who for many years held the responsible and very arduous office of Assistant Surveyor of the Port of New York—an office which, by the way, was only rewarded with the pay of an inspector—died suddenly of apoplexy last Friday evening. Mr. Jones was of the Hebrew connexion; and was equally respected by Jew and Gentile. He possessed peculiar talent for the office he filled, and was regarded as an indispensable *attache* of the Revenue Department. As a literary man, he was somewhat distinguished; and his celebrated work, entitled “Jones’ Digest of the duties performed by the various offices belonging to the Custom-House departments of the United States,” may well be regarded as the best exponent of the New York Customs, so far as they are connected with the collection of the revenues, extant. He was a man of nice sensibility; firm in his friendship, kind and generous; and, those who knew him best, loved him most. We knew him well; and regret to learn, that though long connected with the public service—long respected as an officer and a man—he left behind him a family in circumstances untoward and unpropitious.

Fourth Annual Hebrew School Fund Ball, in Aid of the Hebrew & English Institute of the City of Richmond.

The Managers’ compliments to Revd. J. J. Lyons.

The pleasure of your company is respectfully solicited at the Fourth Annual Ball, to be given at the Exchange Hotel, on Wednesday Evening, February 13th, 1850.

#### MANAGERS:

Genl. Wm. Lambert	James H. Grant	James Allen
Gustavus A. Myers	Jacob A. Levy	William C. Wickham
Henry L. Brooke	Thomas P. August	Isaac Schriver
Wm. W. Crump	Thomas W. Doswell	Poitaiux Robinson
Dr. James Beale	James M. Talbot	Jacob Ezekiel
Wm. F. Ritchie	Marmaduke Johnson	Leroy J. Grant
John S. Caskie	Charles Macmurde	Dr. C. B. Gibson
Dr. F. Marx	Isaac Lyon	Robert H. Gallaher
James Lyons	Wm. H. French	Maj. Titus C. Rice
John N. Vanlew	Jos. M. Carrington	George Lyon
Dr. J. H. Conway	T. Kenton Lyon	C. A. McEvoy
Richard O. Haskins	Charles Bennett	Wm. Thalheimer
Robert C. Stannard	Henry Stratton	Dr. Wm. D. Haskins
Morris W. Rose	Naphtali Ezekiel	Abraham Levy, Jr.

Item from the *York Sun*, April 15th, 1850.

Examination of pupils in Ward School No. 10. Fine showing made by classes of Miss Judith Peixotto, Principal.

From the *New York Daily Tribune*, May 17, 1850.

We have received from Capt. Jonas P. Levy a map of a section of Mexico, illustrating the direction of a proposed route from New York to San Francisco, via New Orleans, Tampico, Vera Cruz and Alvarado, thence across the continent to the little port of Huatulco on the Pacific, whence steamers are to be run to San Francisco. According to this map the exclusive privilege of making the road was granted to Capt. Levy on the 9th of February, 1850, by the Mexican Congress. The capital is to be \$1,000,000, in \$100 shares.

Furnished for the *Cincinnati Commercial*

Cincinnati, 25th Feb. 1851.

Hon. Dan'l Webster, Secretary of State—Sir: Allow me respectfully to call your attention to a treaty recently made by the accredited agent of our Government and the authorities of Switzerland, the said treaty excluding from its benefits a vast portion of loyal citizens of this republic, and being partial, should not, in my estimation, be ratified by the treaty making power of this government. The treaty referred to grants privileges exclusively to *Christian* citizens of this republic.

The amendment to the Constitution, adopted March 4th, 1789, part of which is as follows: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof," would appear to exclude the right or power of the Senate to ratify any treaty conferring exclusive rights to any religious denomination; apart from this it is contrary to the whole spirit of our free institutions.

As a member of the Jewish Church, and one of the proscribed, do I venture to draw your notice to the subject. It may appear invidious in one of our faith peculiarly noticing this matter, when all but those of the Christian faith are excluded from the participation of the benefits of this treaty. But, sir, we constitute a large portion of the integral part of this republic, we are law-abiding citizens, jealous of our rights as such, and having for centuries been under the ban of persecution, watch with a vigilant eye, encroachments on our rights, knowing that when religious

persecution commences, its end cannot be foretold. We diligently observe all laws, we serve our country in the legislative halls, in the judicial forum, or in the battle field as the archives of the war office will fully testify, and why, I would ask, should we be deprived of any of the rights of our fellow citizens?

What would be said of a treaty made by any agent of the government with a foreign power, granting any peculiar rights to the citizens of Louisiana or any other single State, and not to the whole republic? It would, and very properly, be not entertained for a moment. Where then is the difference, if the privileged class be confined by geographical limits or by religious tests?

I will not, however, add argument to one whose judgment of right, and sense of justice is as proverbial as your own. I trust, sir, the matter may be laid before the President as well as the Senate, in its proper light. In the meanwhile, it would be a source of satisfaction to myself as well as a large number of my co-religionists, to know the views you entertain on this, to us, momentous question.

Respectfully, JOSEPH ABRAHAM

We, members of the Jewish faith in Cincinnati, fully concur and coincide in the foregoing.

PHINEAS MOSES; MOSELY EZEKIEL, and about fifty others.

Department of State  
Washington, March 5, 1851.

Joseph Abraham, Esq., and other citizens of the Jewish persuasion,  
Cincinnati.

Gentlemen: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 25th ult., and to acquaint you in reply that the objections to certain stipulations of the Swiss Convention to which you refer, were duly pointed out by the Executive at the time of submitting the Convention to the Senate.

You do me, gentlemen, no more than justice in expressing the belief that I would not approve of any measure which might infringe the rights and privileges of any class of our fellow citizens.

I am, gentleman, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant  
DANIEL WEBSTER

(copy)

NOTE—The objectionable parts of the treaty above referred to were stricken out by the Senate on the unanimous recommendation of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. J. A.

From the *Times and Messenger*, April 6, 1851.

Elaborate biographical sketch of Mordecai M. Noah, giving considerable family history and stating that "the father of Major Noah was from Mannheim on the Rhine."

From the *Times and Messenger*, October 26th, 1851.

The first rung of the ladder.—Our enterprising young friend, Jacob J. Noah, (son of our late associate), has been, we are happy to learn, elected a justice of the peace in St. Paul's Minnesota. Mr. Noah has been nearly three years in the successful practice of the law, and although but young, promises to attain a position still more exalted than that to which he is now elevated.

From the *Sunday Dispatch*, November 2d, 1851.

Account of case in Court of Common Pleas, Philadelphia, Peter S. Rowland vs Harris Coleman and Isabella his wife. All parties Jews and case involved release under law of *Halitza*.\*

From the New York *Herald*, November 30th, 1851.

Died in California.

In Sonora, on the 4th ult., Solomon Friedlorder [Friedlander?], formerly of St. Louis, aged 36. He was buried according to Jewish rites. October 12th, at Moquelumne Hill, Joseph Alexander, a native of Poland. Buried with Jewish rites and honors.

From the New York *Daily Times*, December 17th, 1851.

The Jews and Kossuth.—The Israelites of this city held a meeting on Monday evening for the purpose of taking measures to testify their regard for the Magyar patriot. Another meeting will be held for the completion of their arrangements. Addresses were made by P. J. Joachimsen and A. G. Levy—the first in German and the latter in the English language.

Congregation House of Israel,

Williamsburgh, July 21st, 5612 [1852]

Sir/

I have the honor to inform you that the Consecration of the NEW SYNAGOGUE, on Eighth, near Grand-Street, will take place

on Sunday, August 1st, at 3 o'clock P. M. on which occasion the honor of your presence and that of your lady is respectfully solicited. In order to make suitable arrangements for this interesting ceremony, the Managing Committee would like to ascertain by the 28th instant, if you intend to honor them with your company.

Yours Respectfully,

DAVID BARNARD

Secretary

A. M. CRISTALAR,

President

All communications to be addressed to the President, A. M. Cristalar, 23 Bowery, N. Y.

From the *New York Tribune*, March 22, 1853:

It is generally understood that Mr. August Schönberg, formerly of Hanau, Germany,—better known in this country by his Frenchified and beautiful alias of Auguste Belmont—lately Consul-General for the United States of his Royal-Imperial Majesty of Austria, but more recently an independent Democrat of this city, is an applicant for the post of Chargé d'Affaires at Naples. We don't wish to interfere in Democratic family matters, but we desire to show our appreciation of the effective and weighty character of the late Consul-General's services to the present Administration and the cause of Human Rights and Universal Democracy in the late Election; and, accordingly, we here add our voice to the various other Democratic recommendations which urge his appointment to that easy and luxurious place. There can be no doubt of his qualifications to represent the hard-fisted Democracy at the Neopolitan Court, and to carry out there the Monroe Doctrine, Cuba and Mexico, fifty-four forty, and all other points of that energetic Foreign policy which is going to be the glory of the Pierce Administration. We hope there may no delay in his nomination.

From the *New York Tribune*, June 2, 1853.

The Appointment of Mr. Belmont.

*From the Washington Union*

In the recently published list of diplomatic appointments, are found the names of two gentlemen of foreign birth, Mr. Soule and Mr. Belmont. . . .

The Whig accusation against Mr. Belmont takes quite another turn. They object to his birth-place and his religion. He is not to be trusted because he is not native-born. He is to be held as disqualified for public service because the religious tenets in which he was educated are not those of the majority of the people of this country. That he is an eminently able and accomplished man—familiar with all the commercial interests and relations of our country—that he has the confidence and high regard of the great community in which he lives—that though not a politician by profession, he is yet an enthusiastic admirer of the institutions of the country of his adoption, and at the same time a firm, enlightened and efficient member of the democratic party, to whose cause both his time, his energies and his means have been liberally devoted—all this, it seems, is in Whig judgment no justification of his appointment. A partisan bigotry, if possible more narrow and intolerant even than Nativism, would rule his claims out of consideration. It is not the first, and it will not be the last time in which the Whig and the Native American journals have shown their affiliation in proscriptiveness. . . .

In conformity with sound democratic sentiments and principles, the President has acted in a worthier and more liberal spirit. With the noble military services of our naturalized citizens present to his recollection, the President has not regarded American patriotism as necessary or exclusively of American birth. With the splendid example of Gallatin's career before him, he has not considered a foreign birth-place as disabling any man for able and efficient diplomatic service. We have no doubt that both Mr. Soule and Mr. Belmont will amply justify the confidence which has thus been placed in their ability and patriotism.

Letter in French from the agent of the Rothschilds to August Belmont.

Mr. August Belmont,  
New York.

Rome, Oct. 12, 1853.

I have the honor of writing you these lines at the request of Baron James de Rothschild of Paris, who will confirm its contents directly.

You are doubtless aware of the deplorable condition of most of the Jews of Rome. The severe laws which apply to them prevent them from gaining their livelihood in any other way than by commerce, which in fact is so poor, that there is great misery among the Israelites. During his last visit to Rome, Baron Gustave de Rothschild, moved with pity for our unfortunate co-religionists had the happy idea of trying emigration to America. He has directed me to carry this project into execution, and, accordingly, four young Jews will leave for New York on the 15th of this month, in order to try to gain an honorable livelihood there, which it is impossible for them to do here.

These are the names of the four individuals:

Angelo Moldolfi—carpenter

Samuel Toscano—shoemaker

A. Sestieri— } who were employed in a small commercial  
S. de Veroli— } house as drummers.

Each of these persons will bring you a copy of this letter, and in the name of the Baron, I beg you to welcome them kindly, to take them under your influential protection, and to give them the necessary advice as to what they should do in order to gain an honorable living. They come to America full of good resolutions, and they are willing to work, but as they have never traveled, as they know only Italian, you can easily realize, that if they do not find anyone who will look after them, who will aid them to find a position, that is to say, employment, they will feel lost in a strange land of whose customs and language they are alike ignorant.

The Baron is naturally anxious that the first emigrants should succeed, and thus encourage others to follow their example. He will himself confirm this letter, and will request you to give them recommendations to such localities where you may decide to send them, should you not find it expedient to place them in New York.



The bearer of the present letter is Samuel Toscano, and I have no doubt that you will do everything possible for him. This is a matter in which my employers Messrs. de Rothschild take considerable interest.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest esteem.

Albert Hecht.

Agent for de Rothschild Brothers.

Repudiation of Mr. Belmont as a co-religionist by *The Asmonean*, a Jewish weekly, because of his marriage to an Episcopalian. Taken from the *Evening Express*, New York, February 20th, 1855.

[For the antecedents of the Belmont family, see the elaborate work of Professor Richard J. H. Gottheil, "The Belmont-Belmonte Family." New York, 1917.]

From the *Alleganian*, Cumberland, Md., May 7th, 1853.

#### NOTICE.

We the undersigned citizens and merchants of Cumberland, professing the Hebrew Religion have at a meeting assembled,

Resolved, That we feel it to be our sacred and solemn duty, to adhere in future more strictly to our religious faith, principles and ceremonies.

Resolved, That we will in future abstain from all manual labor whatsoever, on Saturday, the SABBATH DAY, the day consecrated by our religion as a day of rest, transmitted to us in all its sacredness and with all its solemn duties by our ancestors.

Resolved, That we will close our respective places of business every Friday evening, at sundown, and keep such closed until Saturday night, and will abstain from doing any business whatever.

Resolved, That we tender our friends and customers individually and collectively our sincere thanks, for the liberal patronage bestowed on us, and hope that by thus notifying them of the step we have taken of keeping more strictly our religion, that they will patronize us further on such days as we are permitted by our religion to transact business.

Resolved, That the foregoing resolutions be published in all our town papers for the period of one month.

Joseph Burgunder	Philip Bergman
Sol. Heidelberger	Henry Rosenbach
A. Sonnebaum	Frank & Adler
L. Sonnebaum	Abr. Shields
Isaac Nathan	Sol Bear
G. Newberger	April 30, '53—Im.

1854 B'nai Jeshurun Educational Institute, Greene Street, between Houston and Bleecker Streets.

Joseph Fatman, President, No. 166 Front St.  
 A. S. Van Praag, Vice-President, No. 448 Broome Street  
 Jacob Pecare, Treasurer, No. 163 Hester Street  
 Rev. Dr. Raphall, Superintendant, No. 100 McDougal Street

—Directors

Henry Davison, No. 9 Cedar Street  
 Michael Myers, No. 477 Broadway  
 Henry Goldsmith, No. 60 Fulton Street  
 Asher Rosenblatt, No. 108 Canal Street  
 John Levy, No. 30 Vesey Street  
 Emanuel M. Swart, No. 40 Rose Street.

Sir,

The honor of your company is respectfully requested to a Dinner, to be given on the occasion of INAUGURATING THE SEMINARY of the above Institution, at the Chinese Assembly Rooms, Broadway on Thursday, March 23d, at 6 o'clock, P. M.

A Dedication Service will take place at the Synagogue, adjoining the Seminary, on the same day at three o'clock.

'The Undersigned, trust that, as a friend to the cause of Education, you will hail with satisfaction the opening of a School, worthy of the age and the position the Israelites of the United States are entitled to hold; a School in which their children, in addition to the usual branches of education, may also acquire a thorough knowledge of the holy and beautiful language in which the Bible is written.'

It is the wish of the Directors to furnish the Institute with a Library, and every other requisite, to complete its efficiency as preparatory for College, or for active life and for this purpose they solicit, and will thankfully accept your aid and co-operation.

In order to carry out the necessary arrangements, an answer is

respectfully solicited on or before the 20th instant, to either of the undersigned.

Yours respectfully,

Dr. Simeon Abrahams, No. 31 Bleecker Street  
Harris Aronson, No. 79 William Street  
Isaac Bernstein, No. 3 Canal Street  
Barrow Benrimo, No. 205 Front Street  
Samuel Cohen, No. 174 Water Street  
Benjamin De Frece, No. 225 William Street  
M. S. Cohen, No. 124 Water Street  
J. Goldsmith, No. 49 Cedar Street  
Henry Herman, No. 48 Beaver Street  
H. B. Herts, No. 121 Broadway  
Max Heidelberg, No. 61 Twelfth Street  
Isaac Heber, No. 45 Dey Street  
Hon. E. B. Hart, 42 Merchants' Exchange  
P. J. Joachimsen, No. 118 Nassau Street  
S. Jessurun, No. 7 Clinton Place  
Henry Josephi, No. 39 Maiden Lane  
Alexander Kursheedt, No. 142 Broadway  
Commodore Uriah P. Levy, 107 St. Mark's Place  
Capt. Jonas P. Levy, No. 117 Bank Street  
Mark Levy, No. 49 Maiden Lane  
Edward Leon, No. 26 Dey Street  
M. Livingston, No. 203 Duane Street  
S. A. Lichtenstein, No. 144 Water Street  
Lewis May, No. 49 Cedar Street  
G. S. Mawson, No. 44½ Maiden Lane  
Benjamin Nathan, No. 153 Bleecker Street  
Isaac Phillips, No. 12 Broad Street  
Albert Priest, Jamaica, L. I.  
Louis Rosenfeldt, No. 50 Maiden Lane  
David Solis, No. 178 Water Street  
Joseph Seligman, No. 40 Beaver Street  
B. L. Solomon, No. 243 Broadway  
David Samson, No. 265 Washington Street  
E. A. Stern, No. 46 Beaver Street  
S. Schiffer, No. 184 Front Street  
Charles Sander, No. 24 Exchange Place  
Nathan Sondheim, No. 42 Thompson Street

Jacob I. Moses, No. 9 Cliff Street, Chairman  
M. Myers, No. 477 Broadway, Hon. Secretary  
Jacob Pecare, No. 163 Hester Street, Treasurer

Menu of Inauguration Dinner of B'nai Jeshurun Educational Institute. Toasts were given by Rev. Dr. Raphall, Rev. Dr. Osgood, Mr. Henry Goldsmith, Rev. Dr. Lilienthal, Rev. I. Leiser and Robert Lyon.

From the New York *Daily Times*, September 4th, 1854.

### New York Public Schools.

Opening of schools after summer vacation—description of the system and its importance. Statistics of denominational or parochial schools. . . .

The comparative value of the public schools to the community will be better appreciated by an examination of the following statistics of the denominational or parochial schools, not under the jurisdiction of the Board of Education. There are 36 of these schools, to wit:

17 Catholic, with	5687 pupils
7 Jewish, with	857 "
3 Presbyterian, with	250 "
2 Episcopalian, with	205 "
1 Dutch Reformed, with	160 "
6 Industrial Schools, with	721 "
<hr/>	
making a total of	7880 "

or about 1/17th as many as are taught in the Public Schools under the charge of the Board of Education. The Catholic schools participate in the appointment of the school moneys—the others are sustained by their respective denominations. In the Jewish schools there are 33 teachers and in all the others about 70, or one-eleventh of the number engaged in the public school system. . . .

The Jews, although maintaining their distinctive national characteristics in many respects, have never made any direct opposition to the policy of a Free School system, but have in the main co-operated and availed themselves of its facilities for a good commercial and English education for their children. Within a few years past there has been a considerable

increase in this class of our population, from emigration from various parts of the Old World, and this has led to the increase of their parochial schools, which are supported by a charge for tuition the same as other private schools. . . .

Circular entitled "A Call to establish a Hebrew Agricultural Society to encourage agriculture amongst the Israelites of America," New York, 1855.

From Davis, *Oak Hall Gazette*, Cleveland, March 1855.

Sketch of S. M. Isaacks who was then still active in the Naval Office, N. Y. Custom House. He was a Jew, born in 1777, who was appointed in 1796. He apparently kept a diary, from which it appears that he was one of the spectators of Washington's Inauguration on April 30th, 1789.

From the New York *Daily Times*, March 1, 1855.

#### Death of an Old Merchant.

Benjamin Hart, Esq., an old merchant, (doing business at Montreal), died at the advanced age of 76, yesterday at the St. George Hotel, 834 Broadway. He was a Magistrate of the city and county of Montreal for twenty years, and Lieutenant Colonel, commanding 3d Battalion Montreal Militia. He served in the War of 1812. He signed the Annexation ticket, and was struck off the Commission of the Peace and from his Military Commission by Lord Elgin. A tardy act of justice was done one week before his death, the Government having offered to restore him to his rank and position, which was respectfully declined.

June 7, 1856, Case of Hart *et al. vs* Tefitta *et al.* in Superior Court, New York, in regard to distribution of family plots in Long Island Cemetery. Mentions that Congregation Shaarai Tefila had a cemetery which was taken for Central Park, and that they then purchased of Congregation B'nai Jeshurun part of that Congregation's cemetery on Long Island.

## PAMPHLETS, VOLUME I.

### TABLE OF CONTENTS.

- #1. Anniversary Discourse Pronounced before the Society for the Education of Orphan Children and the Relief of Indigent Persons of the Jewish Persuasion. By Daniel L. M. Peixotto, M. D. New York, 1830. 47 pp.
- #2. Sketch of Proceedings in the Legislature of Maryland, December Session, 1818, on What Is Commonly Called The Jew Bill; containing the Report of the Committee Appointed by the House of Delegates "To consider the justice and expediency of extending to those persons professing the Jewish Religion, the same privileges that are enjoyed by Christians": together with the Bill Reported by the Committee, and the Speeches of Thomas Kennedy, Esq. of Washington County, and H. M. Brackenridge, Esq. of Baltimore City. Baltimore, 1819. 86 pp.
- #3. Nathan to the Wardens and Committee of the Jewish Congregation, London. 1840. 15 pp. [Signed: Isaac Nathan, 10 Kensington Cross.]
- #4. Address Delivered before the Medical Society of the City and County of New York on the 25th Day of July, 1831. By Daniel L. M. Peixotto, M. D. New York, 1831. 30 pp.
- #5. A Brief Review of the Trials of Commander U. P. Levy, United States Navy. 8 pp. [N. d., n. p.]
- #6. The Constitution of the Reformed Society of Israelites, for Promoting True Principles of Judaism according to its Purity and Spirit. Founded in Charleston, South Carolina 16th of January, 1825. Charleston, 1825. 16 pp.
- #7. "The Reformed Israelites," from the *Southern Quarterly Review*. 49 pp. [N. d., n. p.]
- #8. Holy Convocations Regulated by our Rabbins, and Observed by (All) Israel, in Accordance with the Pentateuch and Reason. By the Rev. M. H. Simonson. London, 1844. 35 pp.
- #9. Ought Baron De Rothschild to Sit in Parliament? An Imaginary Conversation between Judaeus & Amicus Nobilis. By Barnard Van Oven, M. D. London, 1848. 29 pp.

- #10. Three Letters Humbly Submitted to the Consideration of His Grace the Most Reverend the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of all England, and Metropolitan, on the Inexpediency and Futility of any Attempt to Convert the Jews to the Christian Faith, in the Way and Manner Hitherto Practised, Being a General Discussion of the Whole Jewish Question. By the Rev. John Oxlee. Philadelphia, 1843. 104 pp. [First American Edition.]
- #11. The Philosophy of the Hebrews and of the Hebrew Scriptures. By David Davies. New York, 1837. 28 pp.
- #12. Funeral Address, Pronounced in the Synagogue, Previous to the Interment of the Relics of the Rev. Gershom M. Seixas, (Late Minister to the Hebrew Congregation,) Who resigned his soul into the hands of his God, July 2, 1816. By Jacob De La Motta, M. D. New York, 1816. 10 pp. [Incomplete. See Pamphlets, Vol. II, No. 10.]
- #13. A Retrospect of the Past, as Connected with and Preparatory to a Faithful Exposition Intended to be Given of the Divine Will and Dispensation Disclosed in the Sacred Books Received as Authority by Jews. By A. A. Lindo, an Israelite. Cincinnati, 1848. 49 pp.
- #14. On the Private and Religious Character of the late Mr. Nathan Hart. By J. De La Motta. Charleston, 1840. 12 pp.
- #15. Second Annual Examination of the Sunday School for Religious Instruction of Israelites in Philadelphia, Held at the Synagogue Mikveh Israel on Sunday the 29th of March, 1840, 24th Veadar, 5600. Together with a Prayer by Isaac Leaser, and an Address by Moses N. Nathan, Minister of the Congregation Shangaray Yahshar at Kingston, Jamaica. Philadelphia, 1840. 28 pp.
- #16. Funeral Sermon on the Death of the Rev. Gershom Seixas of New York. By Rev. E. N. Carvalho, in Synagogue. Philadelphia. 22 pp. [N. d., n. p.]
- #17. A Sermon Delivered at the Spanish & Portuguese Jews' Synagogue, Bevis Marks, on the Penitential Sabbath 8th Tishri-21st September-5605. By the Rev. D. Meldola. London, 1845. 16 pp. [Autographed copy.]
- #18. Persecution of the Jews in the East. Containing the Proceedings of a Meeting Held at the Synagogue Mikveh Israel, Philadelphia, on Thursday Evening, the 28th of Ab, 5600. Corresponding with the 27th of August, 1840. Philadelphia, 1840. 30 pp.

- #19. Persecutions contre les Juifs de Damas. Paris 1840.  
72 + 4 pp.
- #20. Des Persecutions contre les Juifs, par Ernest Alby, Paris,  
1840. 80 pp.
- #21. Tobit's Letters to Levy; or, A Reply to the Narrative of  
Joseph Samuel C. F. Frey. Submitted to the Considera-  
tion of Christians of Every Denomination, Whether He Is,  
What He Describes Himself to Be, a Converter of Jews.  
New York, 1816. 96 pp.

## PAMPHLETS, VOLUME II.

### TABLE OF CONTENTS.

- #1. A Sermon Delivered at the Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue,  
Bevis Marks, on the Penitential Sabbath 8th Tishri-21st  
September-5605. By the Rev. D. Meldola. London, 1845.  
16 pp.
- #2. Memoir Addressed to Persons of the Jewish Religion in  
Europe, on the Subject of Emigration to, and Settlement  
in, one of the most Eligible Parts of the United States of  
America. By W. D. Robinson. London, 1819. 40 pp.
- #3. A Review of the Late Controversies between the Rev. Isaac  
Leeser and the Congregation Mikveh Israel. Philadel-  
phia, 1850. 18 pp.
- #4. A Review of "the Review" of the Late Controversy between  
the Rev. Isaac Leeser and the Philadelphia Congregation,  
"Mikveh Israel." By an Israelite. New York, 1850.  
11 pp.
- #5. "Our Colonies." By Arthur Wellington Hart. London,  
1849. 44 pp.
- #6. [This is the same as Pamphlets, Vol. I, No. 15.]
- #7. Discourse Delivered at the Consecration of the Synagogue,  
of the Hebrew Congregation, Mikva Israel, in the City of  
Savannah, Georgia, on Friday, the 10 of Ab, 5580, corre-  
sponding with the 21st of July 1820. By Jacob De La  
Motta. Savannah, 1820. 24 pp. [Autographed by  
author.]
- #8. A Letter to the Right Hon. Lord John Russell, on the  
Assumption of Railways by Government. By Arthur W.  
Hart. London, 1849. 23 pp.



- #9. A Sermon Preached on Sunday, July 7, 1816, on Occasion of the Death of the Rev. Mr. Gershom Mendes Seixas, Pastor of the Hebrew Congregation at New York, Who Departed this Life July 2, 1816, in the seventy-first year of his age, and the fiftieth of his Ministry. By the Rev. E. N. Carvalho, Minister of the Congregation Mikveh Israel in Philadelphia. Philadelphia, 1816. 22 pp.
- #10. Funeral Address Pronounced in the Synagogue Previous to the Interment of the Relics of the Rev. Gershom M. Seixas (late Minister to the Hebrew Congregation,) Who resigned his soul into the hands of his God, July 2, 1816. By Jacob De La Motta, M. D. New York, 1816. 11 pp. [Autographed by author.]
- #11. Funeral Oration, Delivered on the Occasion of the Burial of His Most Gracious Majesty, King William the Fourth, on Saturday Night, the Fifth of Tamuz, 5597. By the Rev. D. M. Isaacs, Lecturer to the Liverpool Hebrew Congregation at the Synagogue Seel-Street. Liverpool, 1837. 16 pp.
- #12. Funeral Address Delivered by the Rev. D. M. Isaacs, Lecturer to the Liverpool Hebrew Congregation, at the Interment of the late Joshua Van Oven, Esq. February 7, 5598. Liverpool, 1838. 8 pp.
- #13. Order of Service Performed at the Consecration of the New Synagogue, Great St. Helens', Crosby Square, on Thursday, 13th September, 5598. The Consecration Anthem Composed in Hebrew by the Late Rev. Dr. H. Herschel. The Prayer by the Rev. Dr. Solomon Herschel, Chief Rabbi in Great Britain, etc. The Hymn in Hebrew and English by H. Hurwitz, Esq. The Music Composed Expressly for this Occasion by Messrs. M. Moss, and D. Leo. London. 15 pp.
- #14. Order of Service to be Observed in the Synagogue of Spanish & Portuguese Jews, Bevis Marks, on Monday, the 15th Adar, 5601-8th March, 1841. Being the Day appointed for a General Thanksgiving to Almighty God for His Divine Protection to His People Israel, so Signally Manifested in the Success which Attended Sir Moses Montefiore, F. R. S. in his Mission to the East. London, 1841. 10 pp.

- #15. A Dirge in Memory of the Late Much Lamented Rev. Dr. Meldola, Chief Rabbi of the Spanish & Portuguese Jews' Congregation, Respectfully Dedicated to the Gentlemen of Mahamad, Chaunted by the Boys of the Orphan Society at the Synagogue on the evening of 21st May 1829. Composed by his Son and Pupil, David Meldola (Rabbi). 1 p.
- #16. Form of Prayer & Service to be Used in the Synagogue at Barbadoes, on the Day of the Anniversary of the Great Calamity, 2nd Elul, 5591. By David Meldola, Presiding Rabbi. London, 1831. 6 pp.
- #17. Order of Services Delivered at all the Synagogues throughout Great Britain, on Sabbath, the 20th Adar-13th March-5601. The Day appointed for Thanksgiving to Almighty God for His Divine Protection to His People Israel, so Signally Manifested to the Success which Attended Sir Moses Montefiore, F. R. S., in his Mission to the East. London. 5 pp.
- #18. King Josiah's Passover. By Dr. L. Loewe. London, 1845. 16 pp.
- #19. Order of Service Performed in Commemoration of the Renewal of the Dedication of the Spanish and Portuguese Jews' Synagogue, Bevis Marks, (after its having undergone a complete repair) on Friday 27th Elul-22nd September-5603. London, 1843. 12 pp.
- #20. A Sermon Delivered at the Spanish and Portuguese Jews' Synagogue, Bevis Marks, on the Festival of Pentecost 5605. By Abraham P. Mendes, of Kingston, Jamaica. London, [1845]. 18 pp.
- #21. A New Year's Gift to the Maryland Ladies' Society for Promoting Christianity among the Jews. By the Right Reverend Rabbi, Hebrew Republican Citizen-Soldier. Baltimore, 1843. 14 pp.
- #22. [This is the same as Pamphlets, Vol. I, No. 18.]
- #23. Discourse Delivered at the Consecration of the Synagogue of K. K. Shearith Israel, in the City of New York, on Friday, the 10th of Nisan, 5578, Corresponding with the 17th of April, 1818. By Mordecai M. Noah. New York, 1818. 47 pp.
- #24. Review of the Doctrines and Prophetical Chronology of Mr. William Miller. By an Israelite. Toronto, 1844. 61 pp.

- #25. Oration Delivered by Appointment, before Tammany Society of Columbian Order, Hibernian Provident Society, Columbian Society, Union Society of Shipwrights and Caulkers, Tailors', House Carpenters', and Masons' Benevolent Societies. United to Celebrate the 41st Anniversary of American Independence. By M. M. Noah. New York, 1817. 24 pp.
- #26. Discourse Delivered at the Consecration of the New Synagogue of the Hebrew Congregation, Mikva Israel, in the City of Savannah, Georgia: on Wednesday the 3 Adar, 5601; corresponding with the 24th of February, 1841. By the Rev. Isaac Leiser, Minister of the Congregation Mikva Israel at Philadelphia. Savannah, 1841. 16 pp.
- #27. Discourse on the Evidences of the American Indians being the Descendants of the Lost Tribes of Israel. Delivered before the Mercantile Library Association, Clinton Hall. By M. M. Noah. New York, 1837. 40 pp.
- #28. The Divine Judgments Improved: Being a Discourse Delivered at the Spanish and Portuguese Jews' Synagogue, Bevis Marks, on the Penitential Sabbath, 6th Tishri, 5610. By the Rev. Dr. Meldola, Chief Rabbi. London, 1850. 16 pp.
- #29. Life and Eternity. An Address Delivered at the Funeral of Mr. John Moss, who departed this life on Monday, the fifth of April, 5607, and was buried on Thursday the Eighth. [Philadelphia, 1847.] 8 pp.
- #30. A Sermon Preached at the Synagogue, in Newport, Rhode-Island, called "The Salvation of Israel:" on the Day of Pentecost, or Feast of Weeks, the 6th day of the Month *Sivan*, The year of the Creation 5533: or, May 28, 1773. Being the Anniversary of giving the Law at Mount Sinai. By the Venerable Hocham, the learned Rabbi, Haijm Isaac Karigal, of the City of Hebron, near Jerusalem, in the Holy Land. Newport, 1773. 19 pp.
- #31. A Discourse Delivered in the Synagogue in New York, on the Ninth of May, 1798, Observed as a Day of Humiliation, &c. &c. Conformably to a Recommendation of the President of the United States of America. By Rev. G. Seixas. New York, 1798. 32 pp.
- #32. The Bonds of Brotherhood: A Sermon, Delivered in the Synagogue of the Spanish and Portuguese Congregation in London, on the 11th Schwat, 5609. By the Rev. E. N. Adler, Ph. Dr. London, 1849. 16 pp.

- #33. The Unity of God The Distinguishing Feature of the Jewish Faith: A Sermon by the Rev. Morris J. Raphall, M. A.; D. Ph. Birmingham, 1848. 20 pp.
- #34. Sermon Delivered at the Consecration of the Synagogue Adas Israel, at Louisville, Ky., on the 7th day of Nissan, 5609, A. M. (30th March 1849.) By Rev. James K. Gutheim. Cincinnati, 1849. 13 pp.
- #35. The Constancy of Israel, A Discourse Delivered before the Congregation Shearit Israel, Charleston, S. C., on Shabat Parah, Adar 18, 5610. By the Rev. M. J. Raphall, A. M., Ph. D. Charleston, 1850. 19 pp.
- #36. Case and Opinion of Peter S. Duponceau & A. Davezac, Counsellors on the Contested Seat of Hon. David Levy, Delegate from the Territory of Florida to the Congress of the U. States. Alexandria, (D. C.) 1842. 46 pp.
- #37. Discourse Delivered at the Consecration of the West London Synagogue of British Jews. By the Rev. D. W. Marks. London, 1842. 27 pp.

## GLOSSARY.

E. English ; G. German ; H. Hebrew ; S. Spanish. The erratic English transliterations of the Hebrew terms are all found in the original manuscript.

Ab H. The fifth Hebrew month, approximately August.

Ab, Fast of. Observed on the 9th of Ab in memory of the destruction of the first Temple by Babylon, 3338 A. M., and of the second Temple by the Romans, 3828, A. M.

Abbahu, Rabbi. A famous Jewish sage of Palestine—died 320.

Adar H. The twelfth Hebrew month, approximately March.

Adas Israel H. "Congregation Israel," the name of a Congregation in Louisville.

Adjunta S. Lit., "united." Council, governing body of the synagogue.

Adjuntos S. Members of the Adjunta.

Adon Olam H. A well-known Hebrew hymn, beginning with the words "Adon Olam," usually concluding all Sabbath and Holy Day services in orthodox synagogues throughout the world. Also said on ordinary mornings by some congregations in the Bakashoth or "Petitions" before the morning Ritual.

Anshe Chesed H. "Men of Piety," the name of a Congregation in New York.

Arbet H. Correctly, Arbith, Evening service.

Areb Yomtob H. Correctly, Ereb Yomtob, eve of Holy Day.

Ashkenazim H. Hebrews residing in, or descended from those who resided in Germany.

Baal Tekihu H. Correctly, Baal Tekia, the one who sounds the ram's horn (shofar). See Shofar.

Banca S. Bench, specifically, the seat of honor in which the President of the Congregation sits.

Bar Mitzvah H. "Son of Commandment," a boy at the completion of his thirteenth year when he becomes officially a responsible member of the religious community.

Berachoth H. A treatise of the Talmud; chapter En Omedin, a chapter in said treatise commencing with the words "En Omedin."

Beth Din H. "House of Judgment," the religious court, presided over by three qualified rabbis, that decides all ritual and legalistic questions in a Jewish community.

Beth Elohim H. "House of God," the name of the Sephardic Congregation in Charleston, founded in 1790.

Beth Haim (Hiam, Hyaim) H. Literally, "House of the Living"—the cemetery, so called because our dead live again in the future life.

Beth Haim Shené, Greenwich H. The second cemetery of Congregation Shearith Israel.

Beth Israel H. "House of Israel," the name of a Congregation in New York.

Beth Shalome H. "House of Peace," the name of the Sephardic Congregation in Richmond founded in 1791.

B'nai Jeshurun H. "Children of Jeshurun," a poetical name for Israel. The name of a Congregation, founded in 1825 by German and English Jews after peaceable secession from Congregation Shearith Israel.

Bodecan, Badecan H. Examination of slaughtered animals for signs of disease that make the flesh unfit religiously for food.

Bodek H. One who so examines.

B'rith H. A covenant of any kind; specially applied to the Covenant of Abraham or circumcision.

Chalef H. A sharp knife used in slaughtering.

Cohen (pl. Cohanim) H. Priest, one of the descendants of Aaron.

Dayanim H. Judges who pronounce religious law.

Elul H. Sixth Hebrew month, approximately August.

Emanu El H. "God Is with Us," the name of a Congregation in New York.

Escaba (pl. Escaboth) H. The prayer recited in memory of the dead.

Gabay H. Treasurer.

Gittin H. A treatise of the Talmud; Chapter Hasholeach—a chapter therein, beginning with the word "Hasholeach."

Goy H. Literally, a nation, an alien; specifically all peoples other than Jews, non-Jews.

Hagadah table, first night Passover. H. & E. Service describing the exodus from Egypt and proclaiming grateful praises to God.

Haham H. A learned man; specially, the Rabbi or spiritual head of the community.

Hanuca H. A Festival observed on the 25th of Kislev for eight days, commemorating the victory of Monotheism, led by Judas Maccabaeus, over Polytheism led by Antiochus Epiphanes, king of Greco-Syri.

Hashkabah, Hashabot. See Escaba.

Hatan Bereshith H. The gentleman called to the Torah on Simchath Torah to recommence the yearly reading. Bereshith (in the beginning) is the first word of the first chapter of the first book of the Bible (Genesis).

Hazan (Pl. Hazanim) H. A reader of the prayers who conducts the service.

Hebra H. A society.

Hebra Gemilut Hasadim H. A society of kindly or merciful duties; in the text, the name of an auxiliary society of Congregation Shearith Israel.

Hebra Hased Va-Emet H. A society for loving-kindness and peace, usually to care for the dead. In the text, the name of an auxiliary society of Congregation Shearith Israel.

Hechal H. The ark, or recess, in the synagogue in which the Holy Scrolls of the Law are kept.

Hesvan, Heshvan. H. The eighth Hebrew month, approximately November.

Jahrzeit G. Anniversary of a death.

Jehidim. See Yehidim.

Jeshuat Israel H. "Salvation of Israel," the name of the Sephardic Congregation in Newport established before 1760.

Jesiba H. A college for Jewish study.

Junta. See Adjunta.

K. K. Abbreviation for Kahal Kadosh, *q. v.*

Kahal H. Congregation.

Kahal Kadosh H. Holy Congregation.

Kalfe Sedaka Mattan Basether H. Collection for charity given secretly; specifically, in the text, the name of an auxiliary society of Congregation Shearith Israel.

Kasher, Kasherith, Kosher H. Lit., "clean, fit," ritually permissible applied to food and dishes.

Kehila (pl. Kehilot) H. Congregation.

Ketubah H. The marriage document.

Kipur, Kippur H. Atonement, the Day of Atonement (Lev. xvi), the tenth of the month Tishri, *q. v.*

Kislef, Kislev, Kislieu H. The ninth Hebrew month, approximately December.

Kosher. See Kasher.



- Mahamad H. The "standing committee" or body of trustees.
- Matar House H. & E. "Purification House," the mortuary chapel in which the dead were prepared for burial.
- Mattan Basether. See Kalfe Sedaka Mattan Basether.
- Matzoth H. Unleavened bread, eaten during Passover.
- Medrasim H. Pl. of Midrash, *q. v.*
- Menahem H. The fifth Hebrew month, approximately August; full form Menahem-Ab (see Ab). The word Menahem means "comforter or consoler," and the month Ab is so named euphemistically.
- Midrash H. Abbreviation in the text for Beth Hamidrash, the college for the study of the Talmud.
- Midrash Shochar Tob H. A Midrash on Psalms beginning with these words.
- Mikve Israel H. "Hope of Israel," the name of Sephardic congregations at Curaçao, Philadelphia and Savannah.
- Mincha H. Afternoon service.
- Minyan H. Religious quorum of ten.
- Misheberach H. "May he who blessed," an invocation of benediction on those named thereafter in the prayer so called from the opening words.
- Mitzvah (pl., Mitsvoth, Mitzvote) H. A commandment. Hence, a good deed, religious duty. Specifically, an honorary function in divine service performed by a member of the congregation.
- Mohel H. One who circumcizes.
- Nedaba H. A free-will gift.
- Neeman H. Faithful, faithful servant.
- Neilah H. The concluding prayer of the Day of Atonement.
- Newe Shalome H. "Dwelling of Peace," the name of the early Sephardic Congregation in Surinam.

Nidhe Israel H. "Outcasts of Israel," the name of the Sephardic Congregation in Barbados.

Notes of Asheri to Talmud Moed Katan H. & E. Notes by R. Asher ben Tiel on the Talmudic treatise "Moed Katan" (minor festival).

Parasah H. Section of the Law; one of the 54 sections into which the Pentateuch is divided for consecutive reading, Sabbath by Sabbath. Each of the weekly sections is known by a characteristic name, taken from one of the opening words of the section.

Parnas, Parnass (pl., Parnasim, Parnassim) H. President of the Congregation.

Parnas Presidente H. & S. The presiding warden, acting president of the Congregation.

Parnas Residente H. & S. The president chosen for the second half of the year from Passover to Rosh Hashonah.

Passover E. The Festival celebrating the escape from slavery in Egypt to Freedom, 15 Nissan 2448 A. M. Observed from every 15th Nissan to the 22d by Jews throughout the world.

Pentecost E. The Festival of Revelation, commemorating the giving of the Law on Mt. Sinai, 6 Sivan 2448 A. M. Observed throughout the world.

Pesach H. See Passover.

Polonies Talmud Torah School. Myer Polonies who died in 1801 bequeathed \$900 for the establishment of a Hebrew School. The Talmud Torah (*q. v.*) of Congregation Shearith Israel is called by his name.

Rabbi, Ribbi (pl. Rabbonim) H. Lit., "my master," title of one learned in the Jewish law authorised to make ritual decisions.

Ramonim wig. See Rimonim (?).

- Rending of the garment in time of mourning E. An ancient form of expressing sorrow, used by mourners to-day.
- Rimonim H. Lit., "pomegranates." The twin ornaments, resembling the pomegranate in shape, placed on the top of the rollers of the Scroll of the Law.
- Rodeph Sholom H. "Pursuer of Peace," the name of a Congregation in New York.
- Rosh Hashona H. The Jewish New Year, approximately in September.
- Rosh Hodes H. The new moon, or first day of the month.
- Sabbath Behar H. The Sabbath on which is read the section of the Pentateuch, Leviticus 25: 1-26: 2.
- Sabbath Hagadol H. The Great Sabbath, or Sabbath before Passover.
- Sahar Asamaim (Shaar Hashamayim), K. K. H. The Holy Congregation "Gate of Heaven." The name of a Congregation in New York; in Kingston, Jamaica; and also of the oldest congregation in London.
- Saliah H. One deputed. Shaliach Tsibur (Sheliach Zibur), the spokesman of the congregation's prayers, the minister.
- Salienta Sabbath H. It is not known to which Sabbath Mr. Lyons here refers.
- Sanhedrin H. Treatise of the Talmud concerning the Sanhedrin.
- Sanhedrin (Napoleonic). A convention of prominent Jews assembled by Napoleon in 1806 at Paris, to answer certain questions affecting Jewish citizenship.
- Sebath. See Shebat.
- Sebuoth. See Shabuoth.
- Sedaka H. Charity (lit., righteousness), used also to denote the synagogue funds devoted not exclusively to charity.
- Semaha H. Ordination, license to act as Rabbi.

Sephardic H. Applying to Jews of Spain and Portugal or their descendents.

Sepher Haim H. The Book of Life.

Sepher mantle H. & E. Usually of silk or damask to cover the Scroll of the Law and protect it from dust.

Sepher Torah H. The Book or Scroll of the Torah, the Pentateuch.

Shabat Hachodesh H. The Sabbath on which is read the section of the Pentateuch, Exodus xii; the Sabbath preceding the month of Nisan.

Shabat Jethro H. The Sabbath on which is read the section of the Pentateuch, Exodus xviii-xx.

Shabath Beshalach H. The Sabbath on which is read the section of the Pentateuch, Exodus xiii-xvii.

Shabuoth H. The same as Pentecost, *q. v.* Pentecost literally, is 50, *i. e.*, the fiftieth day after Passover's first day. Shabuoth, literally, is weeks, 7 weeks or 49 days completed.

Shacheta H. Slaughter of animals or fowl according to ritual requirements.

Shamas H. The sexton or care-taker of the synagogue.

Shaaray Tefila H. "Gates of Prayer," the name of a Congregation in New York.

Shaaray Zedek H. "Gates of Righteousness," the name of a Congregation in New York.

Shearith Israel, K. K. H. The Holy Congregation "Remnant of Israel." The name of the first Congregation in New York, founded 1655; also known as the Spanish and Portuguese Congregation because it was founded by refugees from the Inquisition.

Shebat H. The eleventh Hebrew month, approximately February.

Sheliach Zibbur H. See Saliah.

- Shochet H. One who slaughters according to ritual requirements and examines the body of the animal for signs of disease.
- Shofar H. Ram's horn used in the Jewish service during the Penitential days, especially on the New Year and the Day of Atonement.
- Shool G. Schule, school; the synagogue, so called from its use as a religious school.
- Sivan H. The third Hebrew month, approximately June.
- Somer H. Shomer, one who watches, a watchman for religious purposes. Specifically in the text, a supervisor of meat and foods to guarantee that they are kosher.
- Sucoth H. "Booths," the festival of Tabernacles, Tishri 15 to 21, approximately at the beginning of October.
- Tabah. See Tebah.
- Taleth H. A scarf with fringes at the four corners, each fringe bearing a certain number of windings worn by Jews during prayer.
- Talmud H. The Talmud, the rabbinical collection of Jewish law, etc.
- Talmud Jerusalmy H. The Talmud compiled in Jerusalem.
- Talmud Torah H. "School of the Law," term used to denote a religious school.
- Tamid H. "Continual," the perpetual Lamp burning in front of the Ark in the Synagogue.
- Tammuz H. The fourth Hebrew month, approximately July.
- Tebah H. The reading platform in synagogue.
- Tebah cloth H. & E. Cloth placed over the Sefer while resting on the reading desk.
- Tebeth H. The tenth Hebrew month, approximately January.

Tebeth, Fast of. Fast kept on the 10th of Tebeth in memory of the siege of Jerusalem by the Babylonians, 3338 A. M.

Tisha's beab H. 9th of Ab. See Ab, Fast of.

Tisri H. The seventh Hebrew month, approximately October.

Torah H. The Pentateuch.

Trefah H. Lit., "torn," used broadly of meats not Kasher.

Veadar H. Interlunar month, intercalated after Adar in the Jewish leap year.

Vehe noam H. The concluding verse of Ps. XC said before Ps. XCI at the close of Sabbath after Arbith.

Ve Salom H. And peace, an invocatory phrase or greeting.

Yehidim H. Members of the congregation.

Yehudim H. Jews.

Yiar (Iyar) H. The second Hebrew month, approximately May.

Yigdal H. A poetic compendium of the thirteen articles of the Creed, commencing with the word "yigdal." Read at the close of the Sabbath or Holy Day Service and in some congregations in early Bakashoth.

Yoreh Deah H. A volume of the Shulchan Aruch treating of the laws of mourning.

Zuzim H. Small coins.

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## CONSTITUTION.

### NAME.

I. The name of this Society shall be the "American Jewish Historical Society."

### OBJECTS.

II. The objects shall be the collection, preservation, and publication of material having reference to the settlement and history of Jews on the American Continent, and the promotion of the study of Jewish history in general, preferably so far as the same is related to American Jewish history or connected with the causes of emigration from various parts of the world to this continent.

### MEMBERS.

III. Any person approved by the Executive Council may become a member by paying five dollars; and after the first year may continue a member by paying an annual fee of five dollars.

On payment of one hundred dollars, any person may become a life member exempt from fees.

Any person approved by the Executive Council may become a patron of the Society by paying the sum of fifty dollars a year in fees; and transfers, on request, may be made from regular membership to the class of patrons. Patrons shall have all the rights and privileges of members.

Persons may be elected as honorary members and be exempt from the payment of fees; but no honorary member shall be elected except by the unanimous vote of the Executive Council.

Persons approved by the Council may be elected as corresponding members, and be exempt from the payment of fees.

Any member who shall have neglected or omitted to pay his annual dues for three successive years shall, on notice to him from the Treasurer of that fact and of this provision, *ipso facto* cease to be a member of this Society unless within one month after said notice he pays all of his dues in arrears or shall be excused therefrom by the Executive Council of the Society, which is hereby authorized on proper grounds to remit said dues.

#### OFFICERS.

IV. The officers shall be a President, four or more Vice-Presidents, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, a Curator, and an Executive Council, consisting of the foregoing officers and of twelve other members elected by the Society, with the ex-presidents of the Society. These officers shall be elected by ballot at each regular annual meeting of the Society. The additional members of the Executive Council shall be elected as provided in and by Section 3 of Article II of the By-Laws of the Society.

#### COUNCIL.

V. The Executive Council shall have charge of the general interests of the Society, including the election of members, the calling of meetings, the selection of papers to be read, and the determination of what papers shall be published.

#### AMENDMENTS.

VI. This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote at any annual meeting, notice of such amendment having been given at the previous annual meeting, or the proposed amendment having received the approval of the Executive Council.

## BY-LAWS.

### ARTICLE I.

#### MEMBERS.

Section 1. The dues of members of the Society, including those elected between the 1st day of October and the 1st day of April in a fiscal year, shall be payable annually on the 1st day of October for said fiscal year in advance. Those joining as members between the 1st day of April and the 1st day of October in a fiscal year shall at such time pay dues only for the current half-year, proportionately, and thereafter shall pay full yearly dues in advance on the 1st day of October in each year.

Section 2. The fiscal year shall extend and include from the 1st day of October to the 30th day of September next ensuing in each calendar year.

Section 3. The President and the Corresponding Secretary, whenever the Society or its Executive Council is not in session, shall have the power to act upon applications for membership in the Society.

Section 4. Members whose dues are more than one year in arrear on the 1st day of October, at the opening of a new fiscal year, shall not be entitled to receive such publications as the Society may thereafter issue until and unless such dues in arrears shall have been fully liquidated.

### ARTICLE II.

#### OFFICERS, ETC.

Section 1. The term for which officers of the Society shall be chosen is one year and until their successors shall have been duly elected and qualified.

Section 2. Vacancies occurring in the term of any officer of the Society shall be filled by the vote of a majority of the members of the Executive Council, present at any meeting thereof, for the remainder of said term.

Section 3. The term for which additional members of the Executive Council of the Society shall be chosen is three years

and until their successors shall have been duly elected and qualified. At the twenty-fourth annual meeting of the Society twelve additional members of the Executive Council shall be chosen, of whom four shall hold office as such for one year, four for two years, and four for three years, in accordance with the action of the Society at such annual meeting. The successors of each of said additional members of the Executive Council shall thereafter hold office as hereinbefore first provided.

Section 4. Vacancies occurring in the term of any additional member of the Executive Council of the Society shall be filled, until the annual meeting of the Society thereafter, by the vote of a majority of the members of the Executive Council, present at any meeting thereof. At the annual meeting of the Society thereafter, such vacancies shall be filled by election by the Society for the remainder of said original term.

### ARTICLE III.

#### DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society and the Executive Council, fix the time and place for holding the meetings of the latter, appoint the members of all committees when not named in resolutions, fill vacancies therein, and add to the membership thereof when requested so to do by the chairmen thereof. He shall have a general supervision of the Society and be *ex officio* a member of all committees.

Section 2. In case of the death, resignation or inability of the President to perform his duties, his functions and powers shall devolve upon the Vice-Presidents in the order of seniority respectively. If the President and all the Vice-Presidents shall be absent from any meeting of the Society or its Executive Council, a chairman *pro tempore* shall be chosen for such meeting by the members present thereat.

Section 3. The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Society, under the direction of the President. He shall have charge of the Seal, Charter, Constitution, By-Laws and records of the Society and certify or attest all instruments from the Society. He shall issue all notices of meetings, and notify all members of their election and of such other matters as may be directed by the Society, the Executive Council or the President. He shall receive, duly file and safely keep all papers,



reports and documents, other than those appertaining to the Treasurer and the Curator, belonging to the Society, and at each meeting of the Society or the Executive Council report such letters and communications, as far as practicable, as he may have received since the time of his previous report. He shall distribute the minutes of meetings of the Executive Council among the members thereof within two weeks after each meeting has been held, and generally perform such other duties for the Society's business and development as may be necessary, proper and requisite.

Section 4. The Recording Secretary shall keep fair and accurate records of the minutes of each meeting of the Society and its Executive Council, and promptly transmit the same, after each has adjourned, to the Corresponding Secretary.

Section 5. The Treasurer shall receive, collect and hold subject to the order of the Executive Council all moneys, securities and other valuable papers of the Society, deposit all moneys in one or more banks or trust companies in the City of New York or elsewhere, approved by the Executive Council, pay all bills when the same are accompanied by vouchers drawn, signed and approved by the President and the Corresponding Secretary jointly, and render a financial report at each regular annual meeting of the Society and each meeting of the Executive Council. On the 1st day of April and the 1st day of October in each fiscal year he shall send bills for unpaid dues to the members of the Society, and shall notify the Corresponding Secretary of all changes and terminations in the membership of the Society. He shall notify the Corresponding Secretary on the 1st days of March and November in each fiscal year of all the members who on such dates shall be in arrears for dues, and the amounts of such arrearages.

Section 6. The Curator, under the direction of the Executive Council, shall have charge and superintendence of the library and collections of the Society, and the care and arrangement of the books, manuscripts and other articles belonging to the Society. He shall cause to be prepared and kept to date a proper catalogue and list of the same, and shall acknowledge the receipt of accessions donated to the Society. He shall expend in the purchase of books and other articles, and for their safekeeping and preservation, such sums of money, with the approbation of the Executive Council or the President, as shall from time to time be appropriated for the purpose, and render proper vouchers therefor to

the Executive Council. He shall make a full report, at each regular annual meeting of the Society, on the condition and progress of the library and the collections of the Society.

## ARTICLE IV.

### MEETINGS.

Section 1. There shall be held not less than two stated meetings of the Executive Council in each fiscal year. Written notice thereof shall be sent to each member of the Executive Council at least two weeks in advance thereof.

Section 2. Special meetings of the Executive Council shall be called upon the written request of at least five members thereof.

Section 3. Six members of the Executive Council shall be the requisite number for a quorum to transact business at any meeting thereof.

Section 4. Fifteen members of the Society shall be the requisite number for a quorum to transact business at any meeting thereof.

Section 5. Nothing herein contained shall operate to prevent the Society or its Executive Council from voting upon any proposition laid before either or both by mail.

## ARTICLE V.

### COMMITTEES.

Section 1. The following standing committees, namely: on publication, finance, and audit, shall be appointed by the President at the regular annual meeting of the Society, or within thirty days after the termination thereof, to hold office until their successors are appointed.

Section 2. The committee on publication shall consist of not less than three nor more than five members, who must be officers of the Society or additional members of its Executive Council. It shall have charge of preparing, editing and issuing the publications of the Society, and has the authority by delegation from the Executive Council to determine what papers shall be published.

Section 3. The committee on finance shall consist of at least three members, of whom the Treasurer shall be one, all of whom shall be members of the Executive Council. It shall have charge

of the investments of the Society, with full power to make or alter any such in its discretion, and shall supervise and foster the permanent fund of the Society. Investments of the funds of the Society shall be limited to such as are lawful for savings banks and trustees in the State of New York, pursuant to the laws thereof made and provided from time to time.

Section 4. The committee on audit shall consist of two members. Its duty shall be to audit and examine the Treasurer's accounts and the vouchers thereunto appertaining and to report the result of its examination to the President or the Executive Council.

Section 5. A special committee on local arrangements shall be appointed to consist of not less than three nor more than five members of the Society, preferably residing in the locality at which each annual meeting of the Society takes place. Its duty shall be to care for and supervise all the details of the local arrangements for such annual meeting, including the edifice in which the same shall be held.

Section 6. A special committee on nominations shall be appointed to consist of not less than two nor more than five members of the Society, and no candidate for office shall be debarred therefrom by reason of his membership of this committee. Its duty shall be to report a list of nominees as officers and additional members of the Executive Council of the Society for election at the annual meetings of the Society.

Section 7. The right to make additional nominations from the floor at the annual meetings of the Society on the part of any duly-qualified member thereof is not abridged in any way by the provisions of Section 6 hereof.

Section 8. A special committee on programme shall be appointed to consist of three members, of whom the Corresponding Secretary shall be one. Its duty shall be to prepare and suitably print and distribute the programme of each annual meeting of the Society. It shall endeavor to secure appropriate publicity therefor, and shall have the right to determine the fitness and availability of papers to be submitted at such annual meetings, and the determination of the time to be allotted to each for presentation thereat.

Section 9. Special committees shall be appointed by the President pursuant to resolution of the Society or its Executive Council.

## ARTICLE VI.

## FUNDS.

Section 1. The permanent fund of the Society shall consist of the donations or bequests made to it, the payments received from members for life, and the interest and accumulations of the same. It shall not be drawn against except by and with the approval of the Executive Council by a formal vote to that end. The permanent fund shall be kept and used primarily to further research work in which the Society as such may be interested.

Section 2. The President shall have power at any time to authorize the payment of a sum or sums, not exceeding fifty dollars in the aggregate, in a single instance, out of the general fund of the Society, for the purpose of subventioning research work of any nature approved by him.

Section 3. The publication fund of the Society, as at present constituted, shall be employed so far as possible to defray the cost of the publications issued by the Society. Payments out of this fund shall be made by the Treasurer upon vouchers signed by the President and the Corresponding Secretary jointly.

Section 4. The general fund of the Society shall be employed to defray the current running expenses of the Society. Payments out of this fund shall be made by the Treasurer upon vouchers signed by the President and the Corresponding Secretary jointly.

## ARTICLE VII.

## SEAL.

Section 1. The seal of the Society shall consist of the following design: In the field a scroll on the face of which appear the words (in Hebrew), *זכר ימים עמים*, and on the circumference, American Jewish Historical Society.

## ARTICLE VIII.

## AMENDMENTS.

Section 1. These by-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any annual meeting of the Society, notice of such amendment having been given in the printed programme of such meeting, or the proposed amendment having received the approval of the Executive Council.

Section 2. To entitle a proposed amendment to these by-laws to be included in the programme of an annual meeting of the Society, it must be formulated in writing, signed by not less than five members of the Society, communicated to the Corresponding Secretary not less than sixty days before the date of the annual meeting of the Society at which action thereon is contemplated, and notified to the members of the Society not less than ten days before the annual meeting thereof.

## LIST OF MEMBERS.<sup>1</sup>

### CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

- Dr. Israel Abrahams, M. A., 11 St. Barnabas Road, Cambridge, England.
- Elkan N. Adler, 46 & 47 London Wall, E. C., London, England.
- Prof. Adolfo Bonilla y San Martin, Universidad Central, Velasquez 18, Madrid, Spain.
- Dr. M. Brann, Wallstrasse 14, Breslau I, Germany.
- Prof. George Lincoln Burr, President White Library, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.
- William Vincent Byars, Temple Building, St. Louis, Mo.
- Frank Cundall, F. S. A., Institute of Jamaica, Kingston, Jamaica, B. W. I.
- Xavier da Cunha, Director of Bibliotheca Nacional, Rua de Gusmão, 12-2, Lisbon, Portugal.
- Dr. Charles W. Dabney, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio.
- Albion M. Dyer, "The Haddam," Cor. Euclid Avenue and Doan Street, Cleveland, Ohio.
- Dr. A. Freimann, Stadtbibliothek, Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany.
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- Rev. Prof. Dr. Hermann Gollancz, 12 Clifton Gardens, Maida Hill, W., London, England.
- Dr. Max Grunwald, II Ferdinandstrasse 23, Vienna, Austria.
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- Rev. P. A. Hilfman, P. O. Box 406, Paramaribo, Surinam.
- J. M. Hillesum, care Rosenthal Library, University, Amsterdam, Holland.
- Dr. S. A. Hirsch, 5 Randolph Gardens, Maida Vale, N. W., London, England.

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<sup>1</sup> This list is corrected to April 10, 1920. Kindly notify the corresponding secretary of all errors and changes therein.

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also known as the wife of Amos  
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Amos Lundest, born in 1787

son, Aaron, b. 1772 -

in the Newport Congregation -- 1783-1790

was a 2. Esther, daughter of  
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the page 387

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Reveriss -- spelling see p. 211.

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